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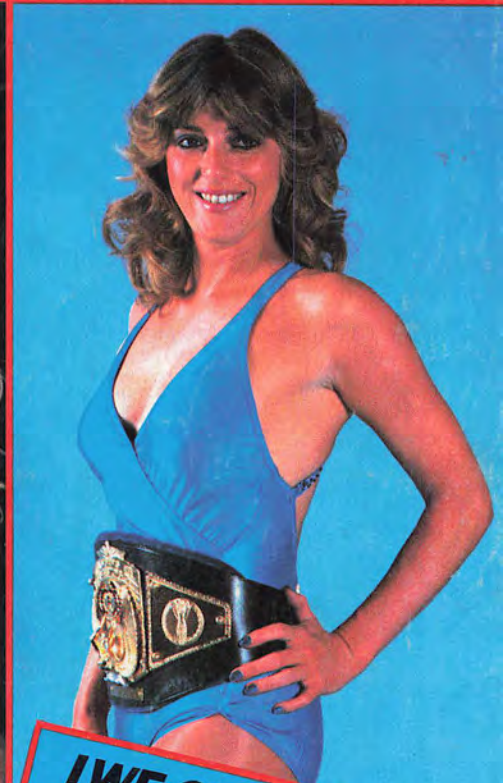
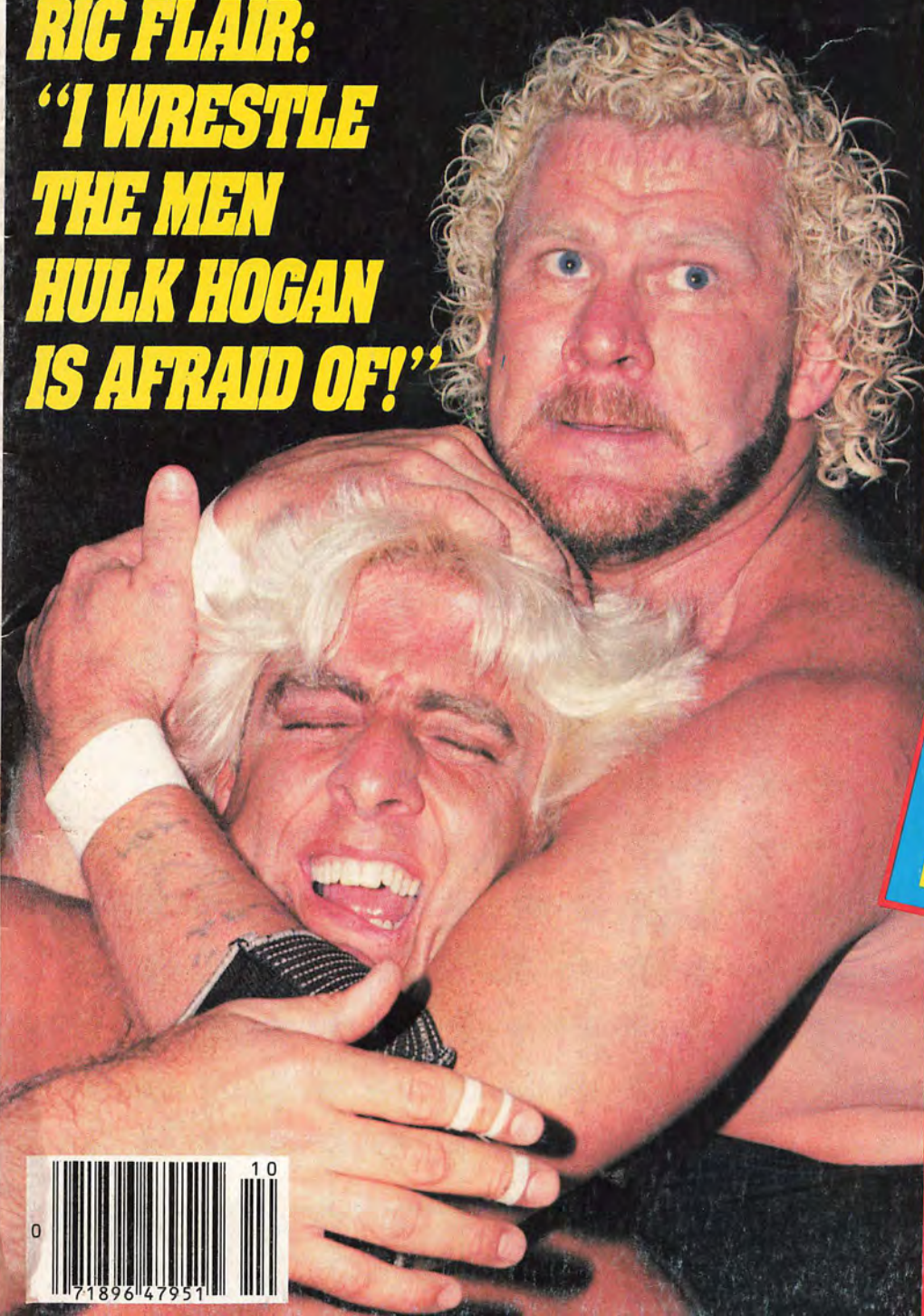
47951  October 1985

# THE **Wrestler**

**David Shultz Gets An NWA Title Shot:**

**RIC FLAIR:**

**"I WRESTLE  
THE MEN  
HULK HOGAN  
IS AFRAID OF!"**



**IWF Champion  
Misty Blue:  
CHANGING  
THE LOOK OF  
WOMEN'S  
WRESTLING**

**INTRODUCING  
KENDALL  
WINDHAM,  
BARRY WINDHAM'S  
YOUNGER BROTHER**

**Q & A:  
RICK MARTEL**







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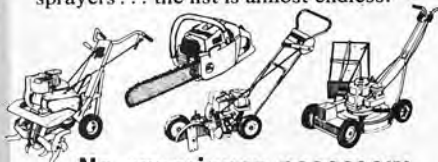
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# Wrestler<sup>THE</sup>

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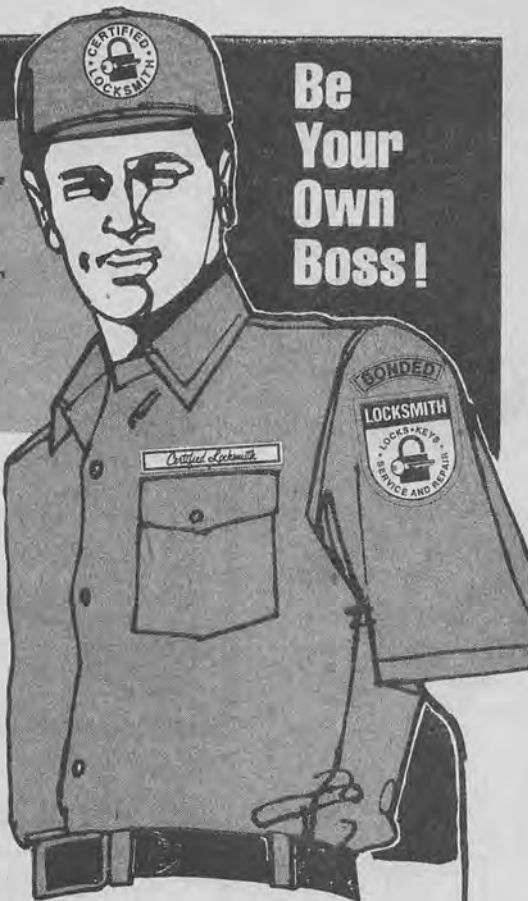
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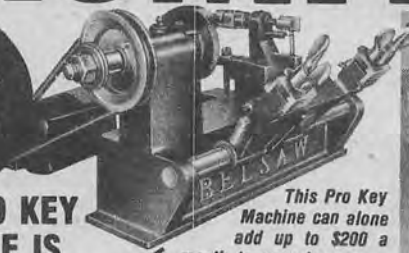
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AS YOU START YOUR 21ST YEAR AND I REVEL IN MY 54TH; AS OUR TELEVISION SHOW ROSE STRONGER THAN EVER IN ITS 37TH YEAR, LET'S VOW TO CONTINUE TO GIVE FANS WHAT THEY WANT BY CONCENTRATING ON WRESTLING. LET'S MAINTAIN THE PRIDE WE FEEL THAT WE ARE PART OF IT. THANKS FOR ALL YOUR HELP AND YOUR HIGH LEVEL PUBLICATIONS.

SINCERELY  
 PAUL BOESCH

21:36 EST

MGHCOMP

Outstanding—that is how my pals and I feel about the August 1985 anniversary issue of *The Wrestler*. We really enjoyed reading about the staff's opinions of their most memorable moments over the years. We were quite surprised. The color pictures were outstanding. The only

thing that bothered us was the top 12 wrestling list. Where was Superstar Billy Graham? He was WWF champion for almost a year and we feel he is much more deserving than some bloodthirsty maniac like The Sheik. Having a color picture of Graham would have added a lot of style to the

section. But what the heck. The issue was, Graham or no Graham, outstanding. May you continue for another 20 years.

JEANNE RENEE KITRIDGE  
 Hollywood, FL

Your 20th anniversary issue was one of the best magazines, wrestling or otherwise, that I ever read. Your imagination and skills are to be applauded. Thank you for the wonderful magazine.

SAM PERKINS  
 Atlanta

## YO, ADRIAN

I am a subscriber to *The Wrestler* and get great satisfaction and hours of entertainment in reading it. The only thing I see wrong is that there are never any articles or pictures of my favorite wrestler, Adrian Adonis. I personally think that Adonis is the most underrated wrestler the sport has. He has held the "world undisputed title," the AWA and WWF tag team titles, and other regional titles around the world. Adonis has at his disposal practically every move in wrestling and he can brawl it out with the best of them. In my opinion, Ado-

(Continued on page 47)



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# WHAT'S HAPPENING!

By BILL APTER



Hulk Hogan tries to maneuver Antonio Inoki into an abdominal stretch, but is forced into the ropes and ordered to break.

**I**N WHAT MUST be considered a major setback in his championship career, WWF heavyweight champion **Hulk Hogan** was unsuccessful in his challenge against **Antonio Inoki** for Japan's coveted International Wrestling Gran Prix title.

Inoki dominated the match, reports Japanese correspondent **Jimmy Suzuki**. According to Suzuki's account, Inoki dazzled Hogan with dropkicks, suplexes, and take-

downs. Finally, after being on the receiving end of a devastating series of maneuvers, Hogan, a former IWGP champion himself, was counted out of the ring and Inoki retained his title. Suzuki reports that Hogan accepted the defeat gracefully, but while leaving the arena it was obvious that he was badly bothered by the loss. He refused to sign autographs, choosing to go directly to his hotel.

Due to some hard work by his lawyers, former National heavyweight champion **Ronnie Garvin** has been reinstated in Atlanta following his loss of a loser-leave-town title match there to **Black Bart**. Garvin is back to avenge what he calls "a cruddy, stinking, foul victory by Bart." As you recall, Garvin was winning his match against Bart, who was wrestling with an injured right arm. **Baby Doll**, the valet of **Tully Blanchard**, ran to the ring while Bart was in trouble and slipped an elbowpad on the arm Bart was favoring. Seconds later, Bart clotheslined Garvin, knocking Ronnie nearly unconscious for the pinfall. While Garvin believes that the elbowpad was loaded, he made no postmatch protest. "This is exactly



Ronnie Garvin has been reinstated in the World Championship area and is determined to gain revenge against Black Bart.

why I don't like the loser-leave-town types of matches," Garvin said. "It drives stupid men to do stupid things. And Black Bart is a stupid man."

A videotape of the incident, plus testimony by *World Championship Wrestling* announcers **Tony Schiavone** and **David Crockett**, were reportedly instrumental in getting Garvin reinstated in the World Championship area. Bart's reac-

(Continued on page 54)



# SYNOMETRICS...an Olympic Champion's Discovery!

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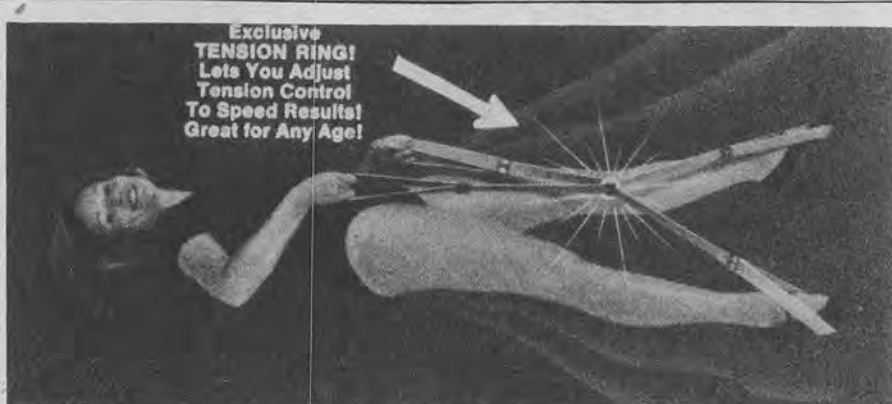
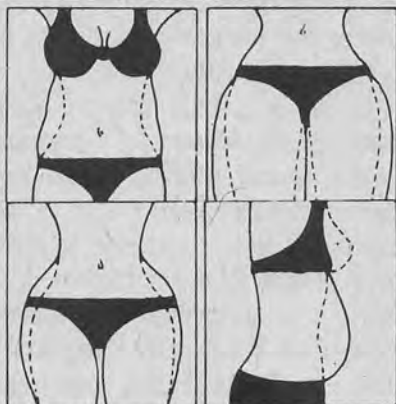
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# CORRESPONDENTS

## REPORTS

**San Juan, PR (Correspondent—Javier Fernandez):** Two titles were at stake when WWC junior heavyweight champion The Invader III squared off against NWA junior heavyweight champion Dennis Brown at the Juan Ramon Loubriel Stadium.

After both wrestlers exchanged takedowns, The Invader took the advantage with headlocks, hammerlocks, and shoulder rolls. Obviously being outwrestled, Brown retaliated with punches, kicks, knee-drives, and elbowsmashes. The Invader now returned

Brown's tactics with some punches and kicks of his own, and, in a spectacular move, dropkicked Brown out of the ring.

Brown crawled back in and was immediately tied up into a Boston crab. He grabbed the ropes to break the hold and rolled out of the ring. The Invader dove between the ropes and executed a perfect flying shoulderblock. Both men exchanged punches outside the ring.

Finally, The Invader body-slammed Brown several times and entered the ring before the 20-count. Brown was counted out, giving the Invader the match, but not Brown's title.

In other bouts: Carlos Colon beat Elijah Akeem ... Hercules Ayala, Super Medic, & Al Perez defeated Fidel Sierra & The Kiwi Shepherders ... Luke Williams and Butch Miller wrestled to a draw ... Jumping Joe Savoldi beat Eric Embry by disqualification ... Taras Bulba beat Gino Della Serra ... Chicky Starr beat Tony Falk ... Ricky Fujuki beat Rick Morgan.

**Columbia, SC (Correspondent—Jack L. Murphy):** "Boogie Woogie Man" Jimmy Valiant took on Konga the Barbarian in a lights-out cage match. Valiant wasted no time in attacking Konga as he removed the big man's steel-studded wrist band and hit him with it.

(Continued on page 56)



Denny Brown positions Invader III for a suplex. Brown would eventually be counted out, but he would hold on to his NWA junior heavyweight title.

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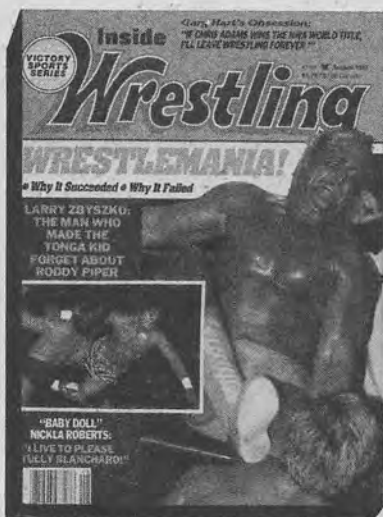


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Precious Paul Ellering has no intentions of signing any other wrestlers. He chooses to concentrate his efforts on The Road Warriors.

**Q:** "My question is meant for the Legion of Doom's founder and manager, Precious Paul Ellering: Mr. Ellering, I respectfully suggest that you expand your Legion of Doom throughout the Mid-Atlantic and perhaps even try to break the WWF's stranglehold on the Northeast. I think you could mold such wrestlers as King Tonga, The Barbarian, The Samoans, and Kevin Sullivan into championship fodder. If this suggestion works, you could own every regional title around."—Bradford Cotton, NY

**A:** "Mr. Cotton makes a very reasonable suggestion," Ellering answered. "What he fails to understand is that The Legion of Doom is not a part-time operation. I would never consider managing another team concurrently with The Road Warriors. Alas, it seems as if The Road Warriors might vacation soon due to the shocking lack of competitiveness in the wrestling ranks. If such an event should happen, I suppose I would consider blessing certain other wrestlers with my managerial prowess. It's ironic, really. The only thing that could rip the Legion of Doom asunder would be its fab-

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ulous talent. Its very success might be its undoing."

\*\*\*

**Q:** "My question is for Sunshine: What happened to Hercules Hernandez? The last I heard he was hurt right before May 5th's Parade of Champions. Is he going to come back and help you battle Chris Adams, Gino Hernandez, Jim Cornette, and the rest of that scum?"—Eric Hale, Burleson, TX

**A:** "No, Eric, I'm afraid that Hercules Hernandez didn't get hurt," Sunshine said. "The last that I heard he had captured the Southern championship down in Florida. From what I've been able to piece together, Hernandez and Cornette had been planning for a long time not to show up at the David Von Erich Memorial show. I really trusted that guy and he just dumped on me. But we have a saying down here, 'what goes around, comes around,' and I've been around the ring long enough to know that that saying is true. Hernandez will get his—it may not be

today or tomorrow—but he'll get it. And I'll be there to watch."

\*\*\*

**Q:** "Will someone please ask Ric Flair what he hopes to accomplish by taking bounties out on Wahoo McDaniel and Terry Taylor? Doesn't he know that it won't work?"—Brian Dubois, Charlotte, NC

**A:** "Brian obviously has no sense of humor," hummed Flair. "By spreading out a couple of thousand dollars, I get to sit back and watch some of the most evil and diabolical men in the world plot and scheme to defeat two men whom I can't stand. It's like a luxury roach spray. Spread it around and it kills bugs on contact. I sit back and watch the show. It's the most sound and enjoyable investment I've ever made."

\*\*\*

**Q:** "My question is for Kerry Von Erich: When your dad was a rule-breaker, did the kids at school ever pick on you?"—Mike Powell, Maplewood, MN



Kerry Von Erich was never given a hard time by schoolmates because of the fact that his father was a rulebreaking wrestler.

**A:** After a long, hearty chuckle Kerry answered Mike's question. "Michael, let me tell you, that's a funny one. First of all I had two very  
(Continued on page 52)



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- Junkyard Dog vs. The Missing Link

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- Roddy Piper vs. Greg Valentine—*dog collar chain match*
- Ric Flair vs. Harley Race—*cage match—Flair regains NWA World title*
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CAP

# Thumbs Up

Each issue, *The Wrestler* will praise the noteworthy and damn those who violate the honor of wrestling. The praiseworthy receive a Thumbs Up, the disgraceful are marked with a Thumbs Down. Here is this month's roll of honor and shame.



*Thumbs Up* to Wahoo McDaniel: Wahoo, who left the Mid-Atlantic as a rulebreaker and turned fan favorite in Florida, showed extreme courage by returning to the Mid-Atlantic area for a few appearances at the suggestion of his long-time friend Dusty Rhodes. Though he received a mixed reaction from the fans in his first appearance back, Wahoo has abided strictly to the rulebook and has steadily been winning more and more fans to his side.



*Thumbs Up* to Lou Albano: The Captain continues to shock and surprise the wrestling world. This time he has taken on the remarkable task of reforming the heretofore thought unreformable George "The Animal" Steele. Steele has followed the Captain's bold lead to become quite a fan favorite. Under Albano's patient hand, Steele has even curbed his Neanderthal tendencies and uttered several coherent sentences.



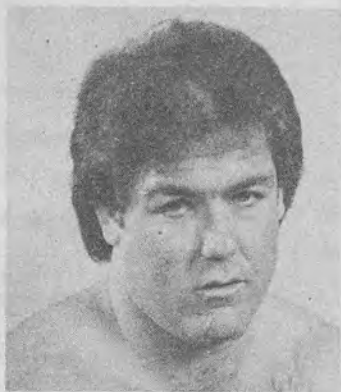
*Thumbs Up* to Ron Bass: Bass made a very positive career move when he split with his tag team partner, Buddy Landell, and his manager, J.J. Dillon. Landell interfered in a Texas bullrope between Bass and Buzz Tyler and caused Bass to lose a bullrope match for the first time in his career. Now, Dillon and Landell have joined forces and are attacking Bass in the media. We feel that removed from their evil influences, Bass will move ahead in his career and enjoy newfound success.



*Thumbs Up* to Sgt. Slaughter: Slaughter defeated Larry Zbyszko in a violent title bout to capture the Americas title. Slaughter succeeded where men like Bob Backlund and The Tonga Kid have failed. We feel it is enormously appropriate for the flag-waving Slaughter to possess the Americas championship, and we are certain that he will lend to the title the respect it deserves.



# Thumbs Down



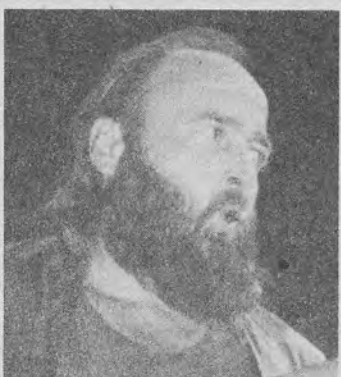
*Thumbs Down* to Tully Blanchard: Blanchard has added yet another savage item to his resume of ruthlessness—fire throwing—which he did with terrifying consequences to Dusty Rhodes in a recent match. Fire is the most lethal weapon in wrestling and its use can never be condoned. We strongly recommend that Blanchard be fined and suspended for this senseless act.

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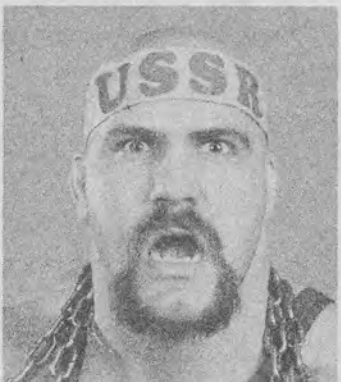
*Thumbs Down* to Sunshine: Never content with wrestling's sidelines, Sunshine has accepted Jim Cornette's challenge to meet him in the ring for a match. That Cornette has agreed to be blindfolded only exaggerates the absurdity of this battle. Cornette and Sunshine belong outside the ropes, guiding athletes trained to battle in the ring. Having no experience, it is foolish and dangerous for them to wrestle. Particularly Sunshine.

---



*Thumbs Down* to Killer Brooks: In a match against Mike Von Erich, Brooks purposely attacked Von Erich's recently separated right shoulder after the match was over and reinjured it. We would never instruct one wrestler to take it easy on another, but blows connected after the match is over are unnecessary. There is such a thing as sportsmanship in the ring and Brooks obviously refuses to observe it.

---



*Thumbs Down* to Nikita Koloff: Koloff attacked TV commentator David Crockett between matches and severely injured him. Koloff practically decapitated the unsuspecting Crockett. Gratuitous violence is bad enough when it involves wrestlers. When announcers are brought unwillingly into the fray, it is time for wrestling to put its foot down, in this case on Nikita Koloff.

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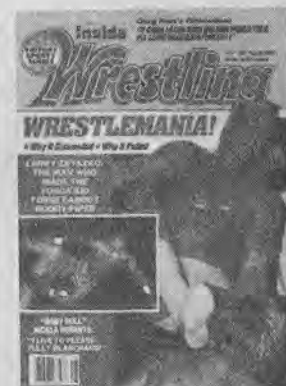
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 August 1974/Stories include: Sammartino, Sheik, Albano, Ladd.  
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 August 1976/Stories include: Funks, Mascaras, Sammartino, Putski.  
 September 1976/Stories include: Andre, Funk, Hansen, Mascaras.  
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 December 1976/Stories include: Stasiak, Rhodes, Bockwinkel, Orton.  
 January 1977/Stories include: Sammartino, Brisco, Funk, Gagne.  
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 May 1977/Stories include: Sammartino, Putski, Sheik, Race.  
 August 1977/Stories include: Backlund, Graham, Mascaras, Lawler.  
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 October 1977/Stories include: Andre, Rhodes, Backlund, Mulligan.  
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 April 1978/Stories include: Backlund, Graham, Steamboat, Bruiser.  
 August 1978/Stories include: Backlund, Rhodes, Andre, Hansen.  
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 December 1978/Stories include: Sammartino, Rhodes, Wrestling II, Bravo.  
 January 1979/Stories include: Sammartino, Mulligan, Rhodes, Backlund.  
 February 1979/Stories include: Race, Sammartino, Steamboat, Ladd.  
 April 1979/Stories include: Andre, Flair, Backlund, Jones.  
 May 1979/Stories include: Steamboat, Rhodes, Backlund, Heenan.  
 June 1979/Stories include: Rhodes, Superstar, Bockwinkel, Backlund.  
 July 1979/Stories include: Rhodes, Ladd, Valiant, Brower.  
 August 1979/Stories include: Flair, Garvin, Race, Sammartino.  
 September 1979/Stories include: Steamboat, Mascaras, Strongbow, Garvin.



AUGUST 1985

October 1979/Stories include: Rich, Rhodes, Backlund, Putski.  
 November 1979/Stories include: Snuka, Heenan, Race, Backlund.  
 February 1980/Stories include: Patera, Snuka, Santana, Albano.  
 March 1980/Stories include: Flair, Rich, Funk, Duncum.  
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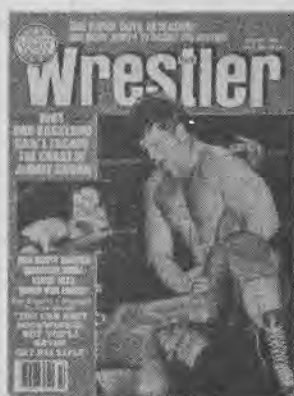
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**December 1978/Stories include:** Brisco, Mulligan, Andre, Blanchard.



## OCTOBER 1982

**February 1979/Stories include:** Ladd, Flair, Idol, Heenan.

**May 1979/Stories include:** Steamboat, Brody, Valiants, Race.

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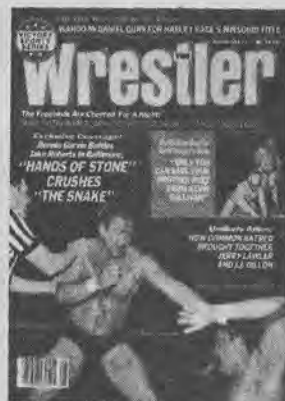
**February 1980/Stories include:** Andre, Flair, DiBiase, Superstar.

**March 1980/Stories include:** Sammartino, Murdoch, Mulligan, Andre.

**April 1980/Stories include:** Rhodes, DiBiase, Youngblood, Wrestling II.

**May 1980/Stories include:** Andre, Mascaras, Bockwinkel, Patera.

**June 1980/Stories include:** Backlund, Abdullah, Brisco, Flair.



## AUGUST 1984

**August 1980/Stories include:** Valentine, Zbyszko, Von Erich, Albano.

**September 1980/Stories include:** Ladd, Patera, Steamboat, Gagne.

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**November 1980/Stories include:** Rich, Hogan, Snuka, Super Destroyers.

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**February 1981/Stories include:** Zbyszko, Patera, Iron Sheik, Wrestling II.

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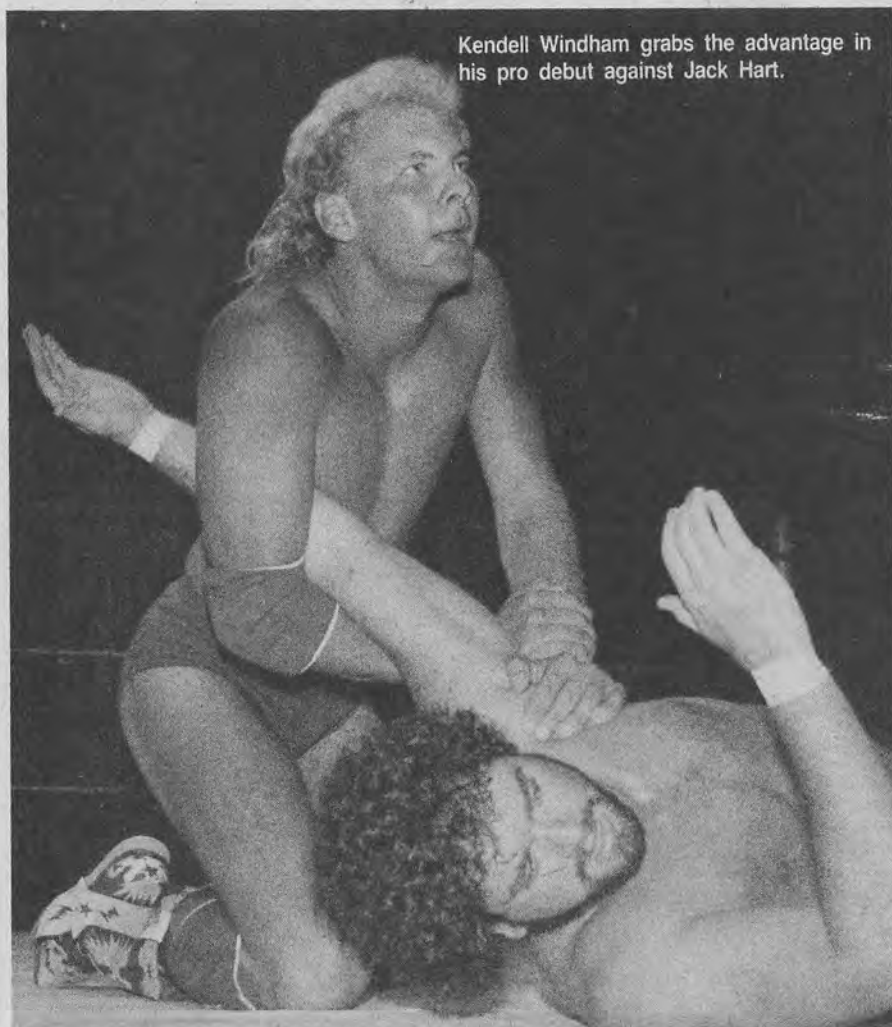
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# INTRODUCING KENDELL WINDHAM

**He's long and lanky and a little bit raw. He reminds Florida fans ever so much of Barry Windham when he entered the pro ranks in 1980. Which is not surprising: His name is also Windham—Kendell Windham—and he could become a big star**



Kendell Windham grabs the advantage in his pro debut against Jack Hart.

**W**HILE SOME CHILDREN might inherit from their fathers a gold pocket watch, a cleft chin, or a receding hairline, Kendell Windham, the son of Blackjack Mulligan, inherited the need to battle. For Kendell's older brother, Barry Windham, the choice was simple, as the strap-

ping young Texan began tag teaming with his father from the beginning. Kendell, however, had a choice to make.

"I won the 1983 Golden Gloves in Fort Worth as a light heavyweight and for a while I was really leaning toward boxing as a career," revealed the 6'5", 220-

pound rookie from Sweetwater, Texas. "Of course my brother and my dad had a certain amount of influence on me. And seeing the success Barry has had, I thought that following in his footsteps might not be the worst thing I could do."

So, on June 11, Kendell Windham made his professional wrestling debut in Tampa, Florida, defeating Jack Hart with a sleeperhold. Since then, Windham has been engaged in a series of matches with Mike Golden, a Freebird protege and fellow rookie.

"Golden's a tough kid," said Windham, who's all of 19 himself. "And whenever we wrestle, I know that The Freebirds are somewhere in the shadows. It puts a little extra pressure on me, but I'm used to it. My old man and Barry used to rack me up pretty hard when I was training."

Does Windham feel that his inexperience hurts him in the ring?

"You gotta remember my roots," he replied. "I've been wrestling Barry since I was knee-high to a fireplug. I may only be 19, but I've got as much experience as some guys who've been in the ring five, six years."

Besides training with his brother and his father, Windham has been working extensively with

*(Continued on page 20)*



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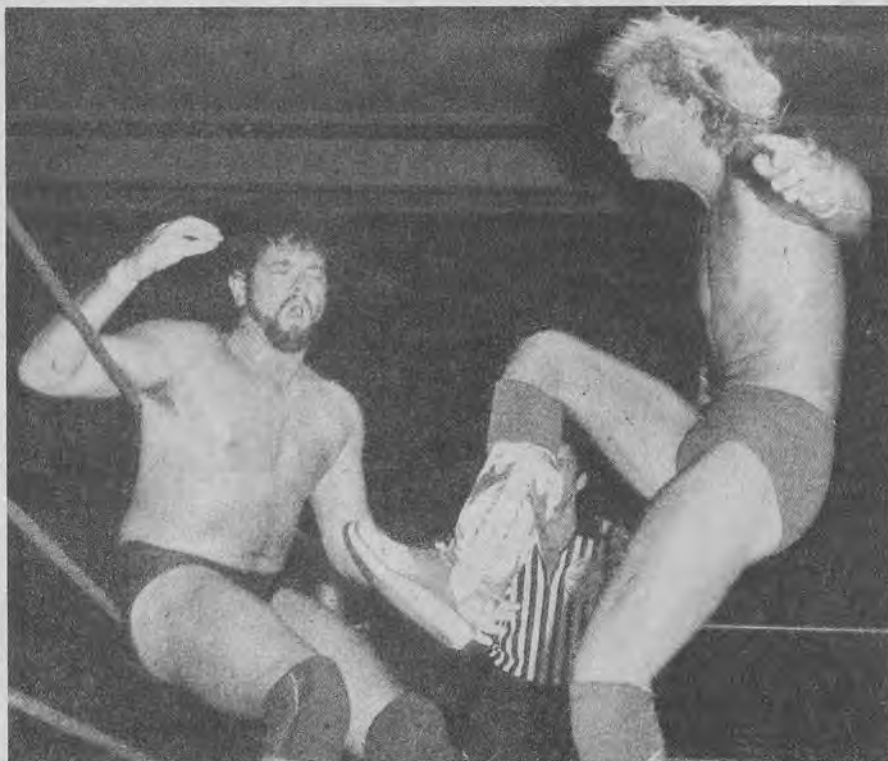
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## INTRODUCING

(Continued from page 18)



The tall and lanky Windham backs Hart into the corner with a series of kicks to the midsection (above). Like a five-year veteran, Kendell knew just when to apply the sleeper-hold (below).

Mike Graham, and both have expressed a desire to team together. "Kendell has come along faster than anyone I've ever met," enthused Graham. "I can't believe that the kid is only 19 years old. I'm looking very forward to teaming with him. I think we can take the belts from Rick Rude and Jesse Barr with no problem.

"What makes Kendell so tough is his ring sense. It's something that's impossible to teach—it's something that you have to be born with—a sense of anticipation, of knowing where to be and when to try the right move.

"For instance, Kendell's favorite move is the sleeper. Now nine out of 10 young guys will try to put the sleeper on too soon in a match. That kind of move can only work if your opponent is tiring out. But kids are anxious, they have no patience. Not Kendell. It's uncanny, but he knows the right time to put it on.

"I know that it didn't hurt me



having my father as a pro wrestler and I can see that it hasn't hurt Kendell. My congratulations to Blackjack Mulligan. He did a heck of a job."

For all these accolades, Windham remains impassive. "My dad would come home every week with another rising young star that everyone was going crazy about. After the kid would leave, my dad would always say, 'flash-in-the-pan.'

"I'm confident. I feel good in the ring and I think that I'm going to be very successful, but I'm not going crazy. You gotta maintain a perspective or else you can go crazy. I'm young, and I have a lot to learn. You get cocky in this business, you can get killed."

One doesn't have to look further than the father to understand where Kendell gets his attitude. Blackjack Mulligan fairly growled when asked about his son's early success. "Success? Success? Are you kidding me? The kid's never been in a feud. He's never been hurt, never been injured. His feet aren't wet. Success. I measure success in years. Come talk to me in five years."

Windham combines an impressive array of wrestling technique with the dazzling hand speed of a boxer. Against Golden, Windham has demonstrated his ability to box, if the occasion calls for it.

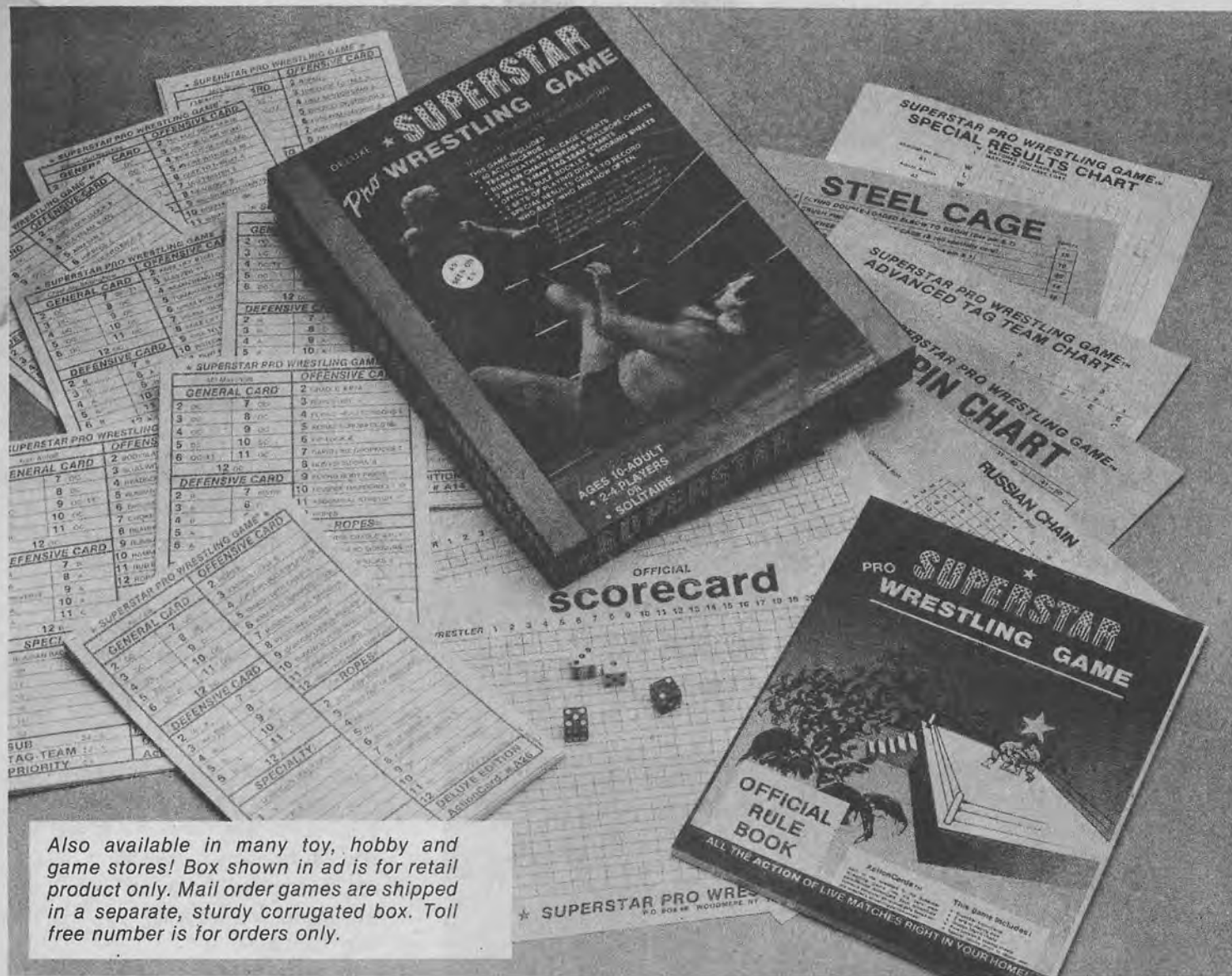
"My dad spent a career not paying much attention to the rules and he was pretty successful," explained Windham. "Now, I'm not my dad. I observe the rules, as does Barry, but we're also not stupid. If some guy starts to punch me, I don't need an invitation to punch him back. And I'll stake a lot that my punch is gonna hurt a lot more than his punch."

Beyond the squared circle, Windham enjoys riding horses and motorcycles and, in true Windham fashion, is a big fan of Bruce Springsteen. At 19, he must be counted among wrestling's most eligible bachelors, a fact that he reports can be distracting at times.

"I'm a pretty shy guy and all the attention can be a little embarrassing," blushed Windham.

In or out of the ring, Kendell Windham is worth keeping an eye on. □





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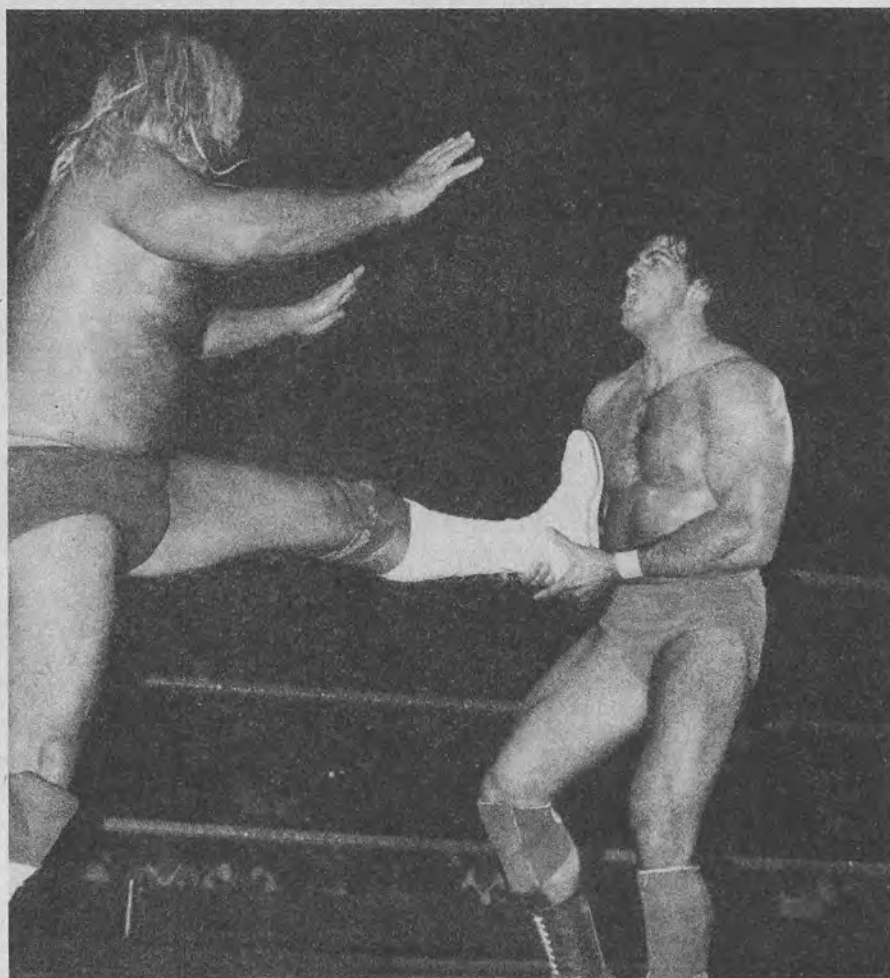
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# Q&A

Each month, *The Wrestler* will present a "Question and Answer" forum with an important figure in the wrestling world. It is your chance to meet wrestling's biggest stars as they answer the questions uppermost in the fans' minds



AWA World champion Rick Martel picks off Michael Hayes' attempted kick and threatens to put the Freebird on his back.

Q: So what happened in St. Paul?

A: Well, Bill, I'm not a big believer in fate and irony, but after my match with Hayes, maybe I'm gonna be. If that match had been for the title I guess I'd be sitting here talking to you as Rick Martel, former AWA champion.

Q: But it wasn't.

A: I had originally signed to wrestle Mr. Saito that night, but he had to pull out. Michael Hayes was in the area, so he jumped right in.

Q: Did that bother you at all?

A: Ah, hmm, no, not really.

Q: Why the hedge?

A: I try to be careful in what I say because—and don't take this personally—words have a way of changing, or the meaning of my words have a way of changing in some magazines and newspapers. It's something I put up with, but I'd like to avoid it if at all possible.

Q: Are you saying that it did bother you that Hayes was substituting?

A: All I'll say is this: If a boxer trained hard for a southpaw with a quick jab and then was suddenly put into the ring with some righty who had a murderous right cross, wouldn't he be upset? Saito and Hayes have two completely different styles. As champion, you must be ready for anything and I am—I am not complaining or trying to justify the loss—the least I can expect is to know who my opponent will be. That's not asking a lot, I



# RICK MARTEL



**T**HE TITLE REIGN of Rick Martel is well into its second year and the handsome man from Quebec City, Canada, is looking forward to dispelling any notions that a sophomore jinx might befall him. With the notable exceptions of Verne Gagne's two enduring reigns—from 1968-1975 and from 1975-1980—no one in the 25-year history of the AWA has managed to hold on to the belt for two years.

Rick Martel is looking to buck that trend, and based on his performance over the past 15 months, he seems capable of doing it. Martel had a scare, recently. While wrestling Freebird Michael Hayes in St. Paul, Martel was clocked in the head by a foreign object that had been handed to Hayes by his flock brother, Buddy Roberts. Martel was pinned, but the title did not change hands since Martel's title contract had been signed against Mr. Saito, who pulled because of legal problems. According to AWA rules, any substitution in a title match (unless a new contract is drawn up) immediately converts the match into a non-title bout.

Senior Editor Bill Apter spoke to Martel about the match and other things.

don't think.

**Q:** So you found yourself facing Hayes, who's a slugger, instead of Saito, who relies primarily on the martial arts. Did you know that the match wasn't for the title?

**A:** That question is really irrelevant. Even if it weren't for the title, I was still going to give it everything I had. That's when you can get injured in this sport, when you start taking it easy. I had an idea that it wasn't a title match. This kind of thing has happened before. But when Hayes walked out with the belt, I got a sick feeling.

**Q:** What did Hayes hit you with?

**A:** A piece of metal, or steel. Something a lot stronger than his fist, I know that.

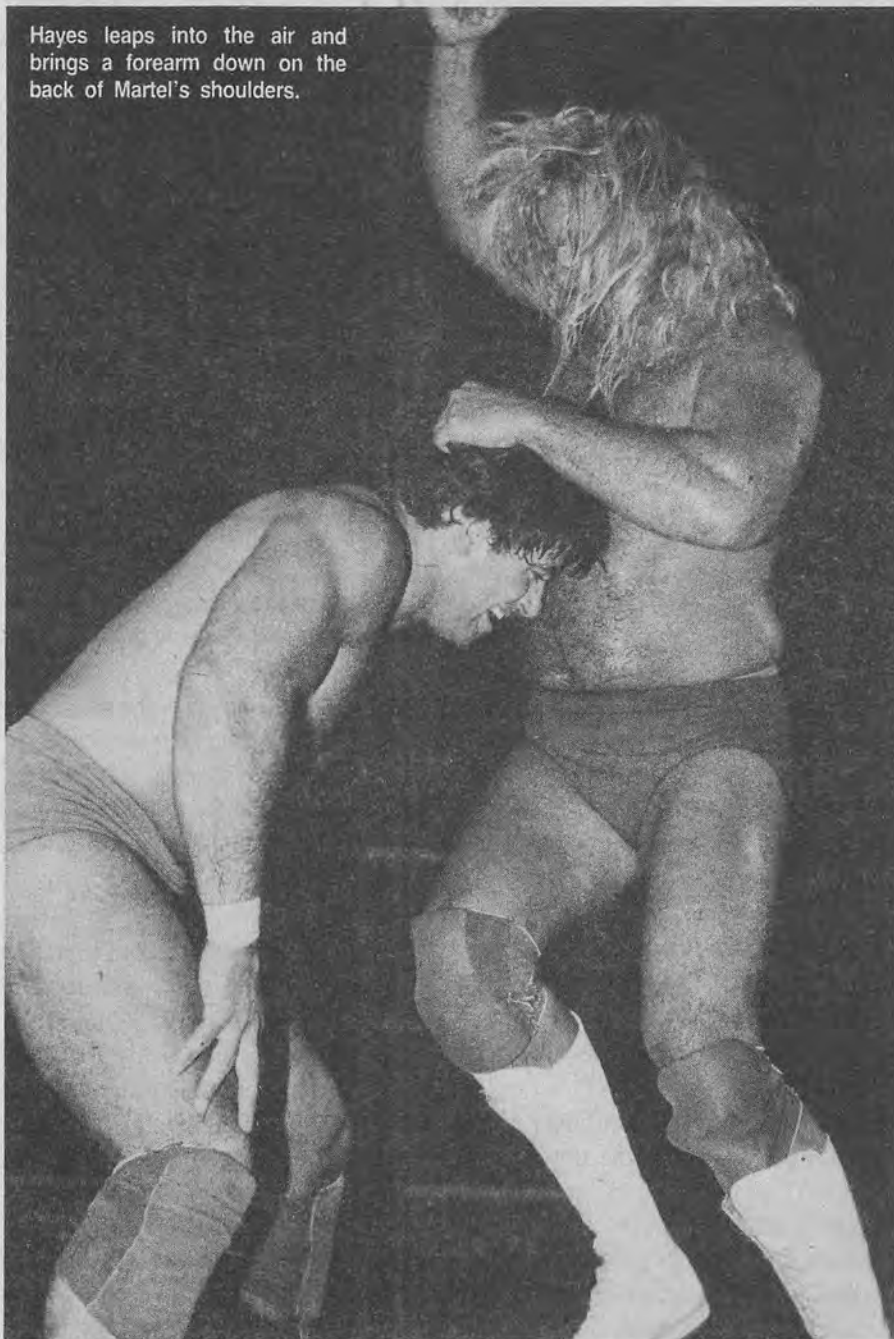
**Q:** And you're sure that Roberts handed it to him?

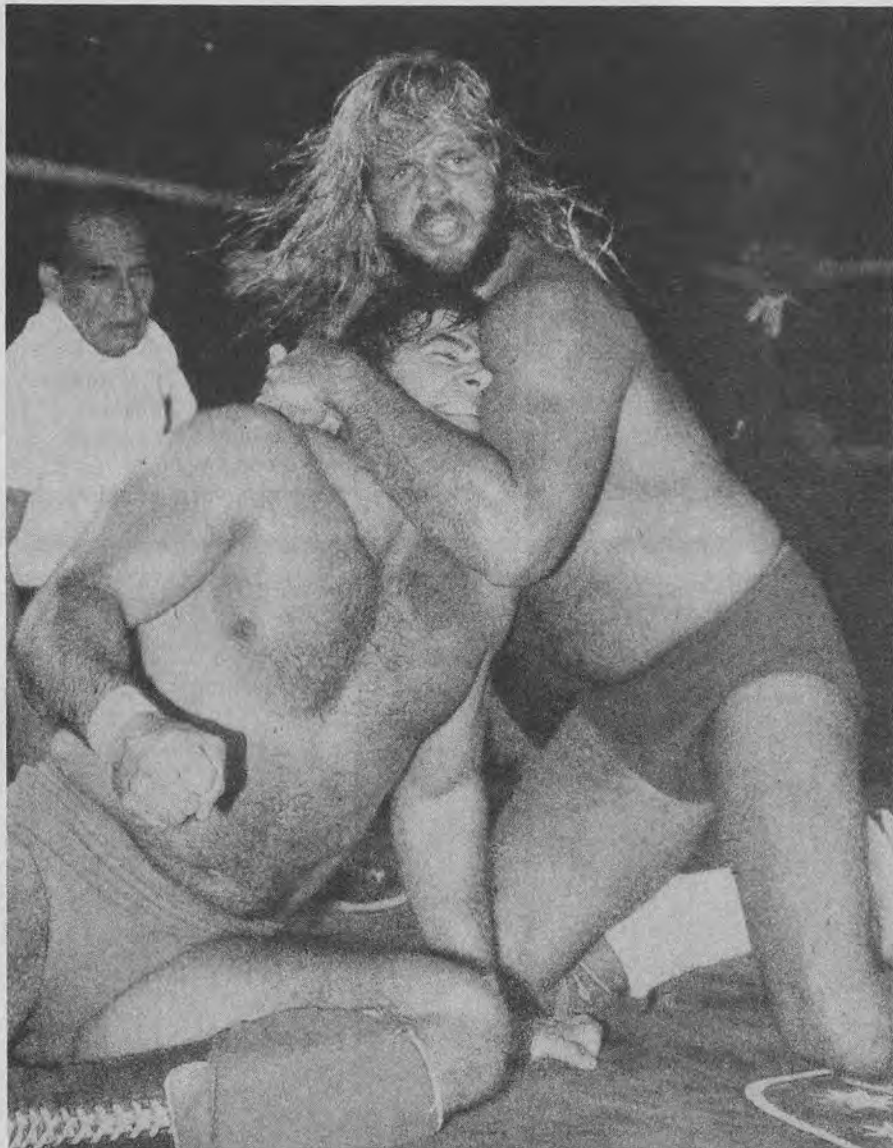
**A:** I've been told by a number of reliable sources.

**Q:** Y'know, Rick, that Hayes and the rest of The Freebirds are gonna be screaming all kinds of things to the media. In fact, I've heard that they had their first press conference to announce Michael Hayes as the *real* AWA champion.

**A:** Oh, I'm used to all that. You forget that I wrestled Jimmy Garvin all those times and he's practically a walking grist mill. There's really no controversy. Hayes should have been disqualified anyway for using a foreign object. And the match was not for the title. Plain and

Hayes leaps into the air and brings a forearm down on the back of Martel's shoulders.





Hayes applies pressure to Martel's face and the back of his neck. Martel, who usually spends a lot of time preparing for an opponent, was not given ample time to get ready for Hayes.



Before the Freebird can fly from the ropes, the AWA champion hijacks him from the turnbuckles.

simple.

**Q:** Would you give Hayes a rematch?

**A:** Of course. The only way to shut those guys up is to beat them fair and square. I'll wrestle them all if they want. Roberts, Gordy, Hayes—I'll take them all on. You know me, Bill, I let my actions speak for me. I've always been like that.

**Q:** How has being the AWA champion changed Rick Martel?

**A:** I'm much more self-confident now, both in and out of the ring. Right after I won the title I was caught up in such a wave of publicity, I thought I would go crazy. I just couldn't get used to the treatment a champion received. Being shuttled around from town to town,

interview to photo session to interview got to be very draining. I found myself saying the same things over and over. I didn't even know if I meant them. I lost touch with myself.

**Q:** And now?

**A:** I've learned that you can't please the entire world, and if you try to, you'll never be very happy. I've learned to say no. I've learned to use the championship instead of allowing the championship to use me. But it's still a tremendous constraint on your time. It's just a little easier now.

**Q:** Lou Thesz once remarked that there are many men who can wrestle like champions, but only a select few can act like champions.

What do you think about that remark?

**A:** That's tough. I agree with Thesz, but I also think the world is a different place now than when he was wrestling. I know that Thesz and Flair have a conflict about the nature of champions. It was easier for Thesz to be the ambassador of good will and all that 30 and 40 years ago. Travel wasn't as extensive as it is today. There wasn't the incredible media pressure then as there is now. Today, a wrestler has





Buddy Roberts (AWA belt in hand) and Terry Gordy assist Hayes to the dressing room. The belt, of course, would have to be returned.

to handle as much pressure outside of the ring as he does inside, which is crazy, but that's just the way it is. If Flair defends his belt against all comers—which he does—who is to criticize his actions out of the ring? I don't know, Bill, that's a tough question.

**Q:** Have you given any consideration to tag teaming while you hold the belt?

**A:** Not to be repetitious, but I don't think I could spread myself that thin. It wouldn't be fair to my partner.

**Q:** Anything you would like to do?

**A:** I would like to wrestle The Road Warriors, individually. But, it seems as if they never wrestle apart. I would really like to do that. I think it would be my ultimate test.

**Q:** But do you think you would win?

**A:** Yes, I think I would win.

**Q:** What about Hulk Hogan and Ric Flair. Would you like to wrestle them?

**A:** The old unification question. Of course I would like to. But it's an empty wish. At this time, it doesn't look like any of those matches will get off the ground.

**Q:** Is there anything you would like to say before we go?

**A:** Just that through it all the fans have been the reason I've been so successful. With their continued support, I plan on being champion for a long, long time. ☐

# Wrestling 85

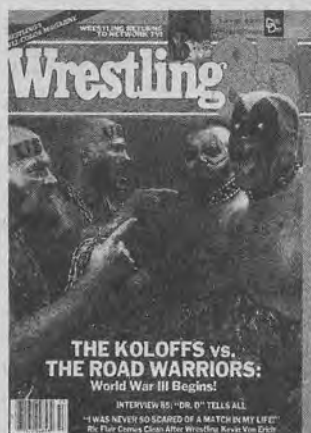
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- Interview 85: "Dr. D" David Shultz's gripes with John Stossel, Hulk Hogan, and Vince McMahon
- Wrestling returns to network TV
- The Private Side of Michael Hayes
- Head to Head: Four experts pick the winner of a hypothetical battle between King Kong Bundy and Jerry Blackwell
- You Decide: Are referees too lenient?
- Chris Adams in the "Crossfire"
- Official ratings in 14 categories



## Wrestling 85

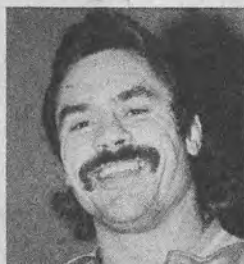
**Packed With Color Photos Of Wrestling's Biggest Stars!**

**Now On Sale**

*The Best Keeps Getting Better!*

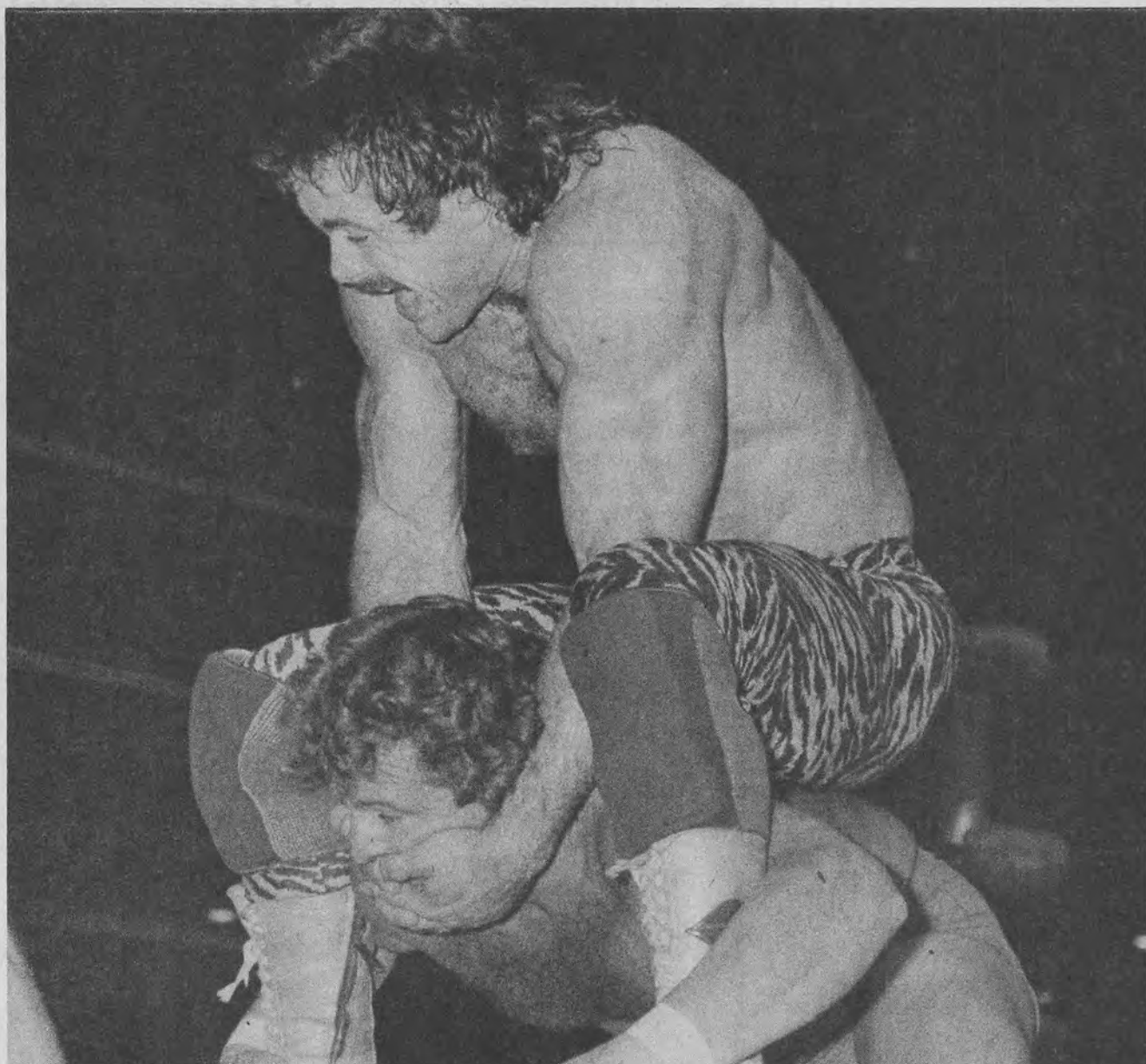
## THE WRESTLER PANEL EXAMINES

# RAY



### RICK RUDE

Each month  
**THE WRESTLER'S** panel of experts  
will offer their candid opinions of one  
of wrestling's stars. Whether an up-and-coming  
youngster or an established superstar in his own right,  
our panel will always be frank and honest without fear of reprisal



Rick Rude has what many wrestling insiders consider the perfect body for wrestling. The only question on the minds of these people is what he plans to do with his mind. If he chooses not to use his mind and lets Percy Pringle continue to guide his career, he might be wasting the potential of one day becoming a world champion.





### BRUNO SAMMARTINO

"Y'know, at one point I thought that Rick Rude and my son David might one day form a tag team. They were so compatible—strong and fast, with lots of youth on their side. But then Rude got involved with that Pringle character and now, dog-gone it, he's losing his identity. I pegged him as one of top stars of the future, but if he's ever going to be great, he must establish himself and get rid of Pringle. Otherwise, he's got all the tools."

Bruno Sammartino is known as wrestling's "Living Legend." He is the most popular wrestler to ever hold the WWF title.



### TERRY FUNK

"I like Rick Rude. He's a cocky kid, doesn't waste any time with that 'ooh, I couldn't do it without the fans' bull trap. And this boy can wrestle. He's the strongest kid I've seen in years. His body was made for wrestling, although I know a lot of women who think his body could be used other ways. And I think it was a strong move giving up on the fans. They're just a distraction. At this stage, Rude must concentrate on getting ahead at any cost. And he's doing it."

Terry Funk has held the NWA World championship, the Missouri State title, and a number of other regional titles.



### GENE KINISKI

"I had a line out on Rude from the beginning. I knew this kid was something special. He's got the moves, the quickness, the strength. I didn't know how tough he was, but the way he bounced back from that leg injury tells me something. If he's got a problem, it's with his face. It's too pretty. He needs to get it banged up a little, have his nose fractured, his ears boxed, a couple of scars. That way he won't preen so damn much. But with Rude, you're looking at a future champ."

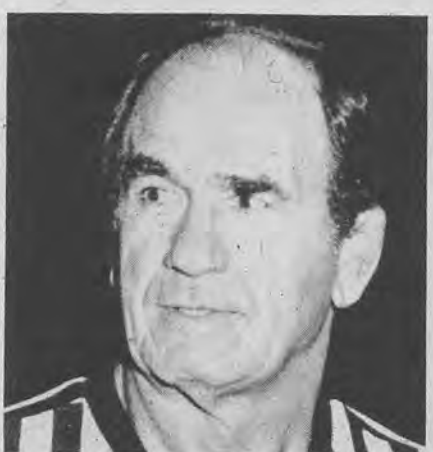
Gene Kiniski is a rugged Canadian who was NWA World champion in the late 1960s.



### BUDDY ROGERS

"Rude is going to have to decide whether he wants a harem or a championship. If he wants to be known as a wrestler, then he'd better get his act together. Wrestling is more than just muscle-flexing and smiling pretty. It's a tough business that requires lots of practice. Now Rude has the tools, but he's got to expand on them. I expected him to be way ahead of the pace he's at now. He's still young, but time moves quickly in this sport."

Buddy Rogers is the only man to hold both the NWA World title and the WWF title.



### LOU THESZ

"There were only good things being said about Rick Rude until he got involved with Percy Pringle. He's too easily influenced by Pringle, and many people wonder if Pringle has Rude's best intentions in mind. Aside from that, I'm very impressed with Rude's development. Winning the Florida title gave him the confidence he needs to improve. That first taste of success is very important. I see Rude at the top of the sport very shortly."

Lou Thesz held the NWA World title six times during his fabulous 50-year career. Many consider him the greatest all-round wrestler in history.



### VERNE GAGNE

"Science is the cornerstone of wrestling. I've seen guys dripping with natural talent who never bothered to develop moves and strategy. They got by on their talent, but not having a technical grasp of the sport always caught up with them. Rude is one of them. He must get competent guidance. He can't expect overnight success. If he sweats out the details, then he can be extraordinarily successful. If he doesn't, he might be another shoulda, woulda, coulda."

Verne Gagne held the AWA World title a record 11 times. He was voted "Best Scientific Wrestler" of the last 25 years by the wrestling media.

# The Wrestler SPOT LIGHTS...

From time to time, *The Wrestler* will shine its spotlight on an outstanding wrestler, manager, or tag team. These are unforgettable highlights of the sport's greatest stars, compiled by the largest staff of editors and photographers in wrestling journalism

## SGT. SLAUGHTER

**S**GT. SLAUGHTER WILL be remembered best not as a wrestler, but as a motivator and a cheerleader and a patriot. Rising to prominence about the same time Ronald Reagan was first elected president, Slaughter and Mr. Reagan renewed the American people's faith in themselves and in their country at a time when that spirit was in danger of disappearing.

Standing for the traditional values that built America, Slaughter, an ex-Marine sargent, embarked on a mission to rid the wrestling world of its foreign element. It was that foreign element, in the name of The Iron Sheik, that first turned Slaughter from a feared and hated rulebreaker to one of the most beloved wrestlers in the history of the sport. Slaughter battled the

anti-American Iron Sheik in a series of grudge matches that became more spectacular and bloody with each passing month.

Slaughter's popularity spilled over into the mainstream. He became symbolic of the best this nation had to offer. With integrity, loyalty, and courage as his calling cards, Slaughter became one of the most sought-after speakers in the country. When he wasn't turning back the challenge of The Iron Sheik or Nikolai Volkoff, Slaughter could be found giving motivational speeches at children's hospitals.

Slaughter left the WWF in January 1985 and enlisted with the Pro Wrestling U.S.A. group, which provided him with a wider base of operation and opposition. Slaughter, who recently captured the Americas title from Larry Zbyszko, made it plain that in addition to fighting for America, he was also interested in fighting for a world championship, and with the U.S.A. group he has gotten his chance, wrestling NWA champion Ric Flair to several draws and negotiating for a future shot at Rick Martel's AWA title.

Slaughter has become America's showpiece, a walking testament to the ideals that the United States stands for. The Wrestler takes great pride in spotlighting Sgt. Slaughter, and trumpeting his message to all of our readers.



Sgt. Slaughter's battles with The Iron Sheik reshaped the way American fans looked at The Sarge and the way The Sarge looked upon the American fans.





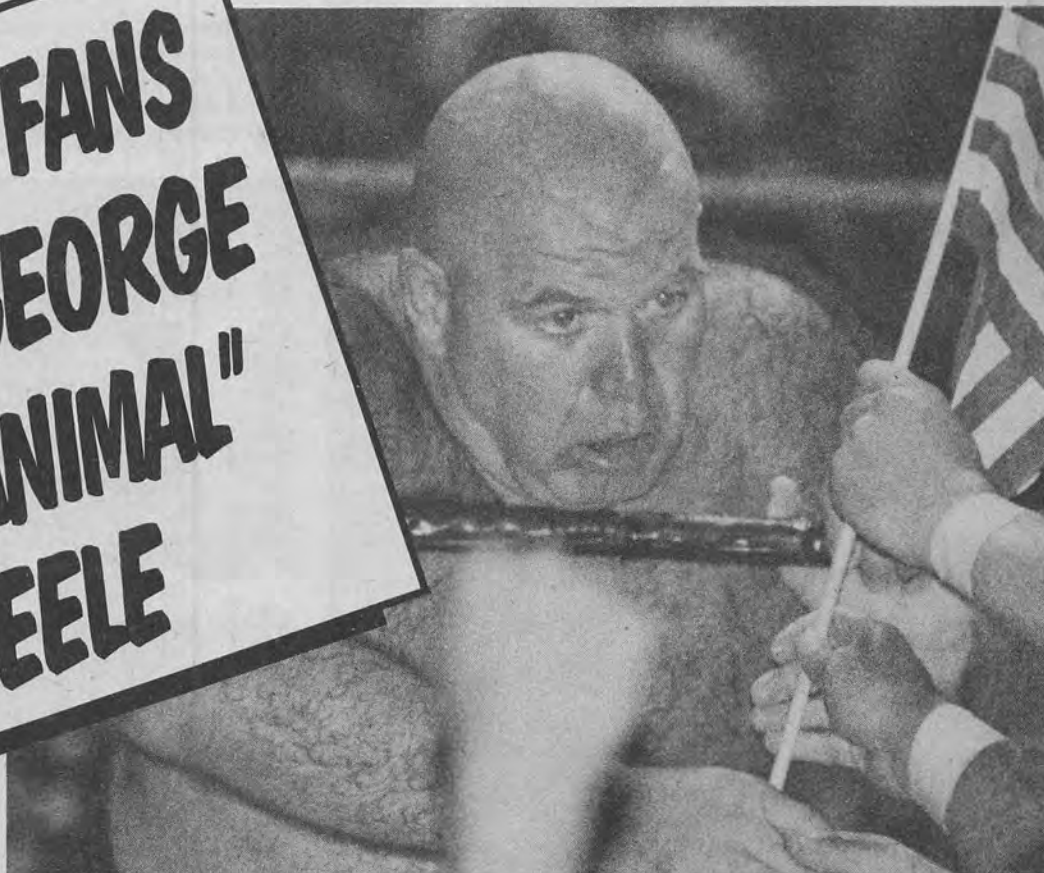
Slaughter spent the early part of his career trying to establish his superiority over the sport's most popular men. Left: The Sarge digs his fingers into the side of Andre the Giant's neck. Below: Slaughter would later team with Andre against The Iron Sheik and Nikolai Volkoff.



Above: Unable to get a match against Hulk Hogan, Slaughter left the WWF in favor of Pro Wrestling U.S.A., and he quickly got a much-deserved match against NWA World champion Ric Flair. Left: Slaughter, who has had some classic battles with The Road Warriors, clotheslines Animal. Below: Wrestling alone in a tag team battle royal in New Jersey, The Sarge overcame tremendous odds to emerge victorious.



# HOW THE FANS SAVED GEORGE "THE ANIMAL" STEELE



***In a year that has already born witness to Coca-Cola changing its century-old formula, it should come as little surprise that George "The Animal" Steele has turned into a fan favorite. But it does. It really does***

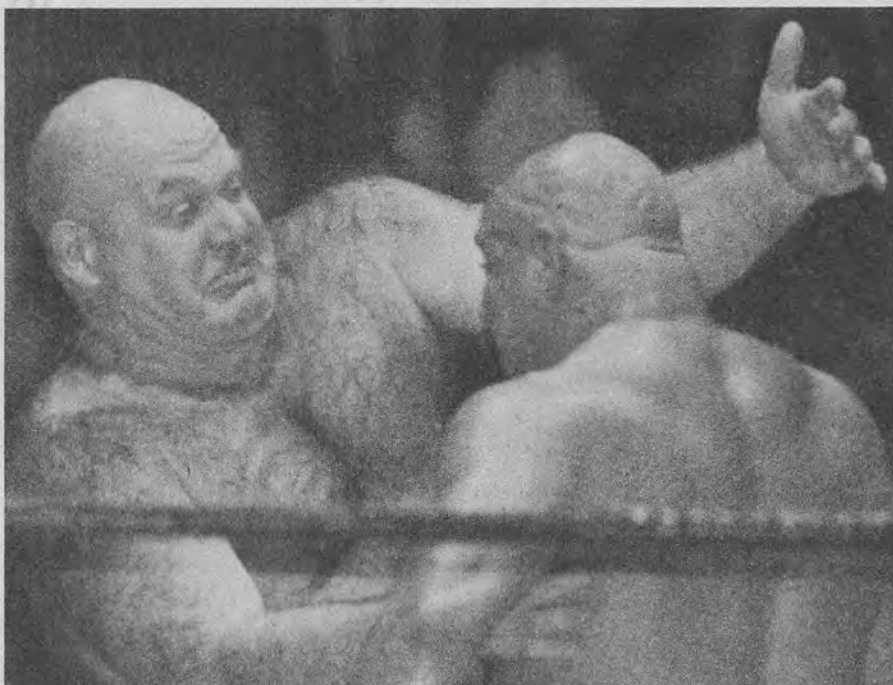
**L**OU ALBANO, no stranger to the wrath of the crowd, calls George Steele's turnaround miraculous. "Yes, and, yes, indeed it is a great and wonderful and magnificent miracle. Mr. George Steele, often imitated but never duplicated. He is talking, he is thinking, he is doing commercials.

"The therapy he is undergoing will turn him into a completely normal and civilized human being. He is a true American. He is a patriot. He is not a Neanderthal. He is well-adjusted, average human being."

Huh?

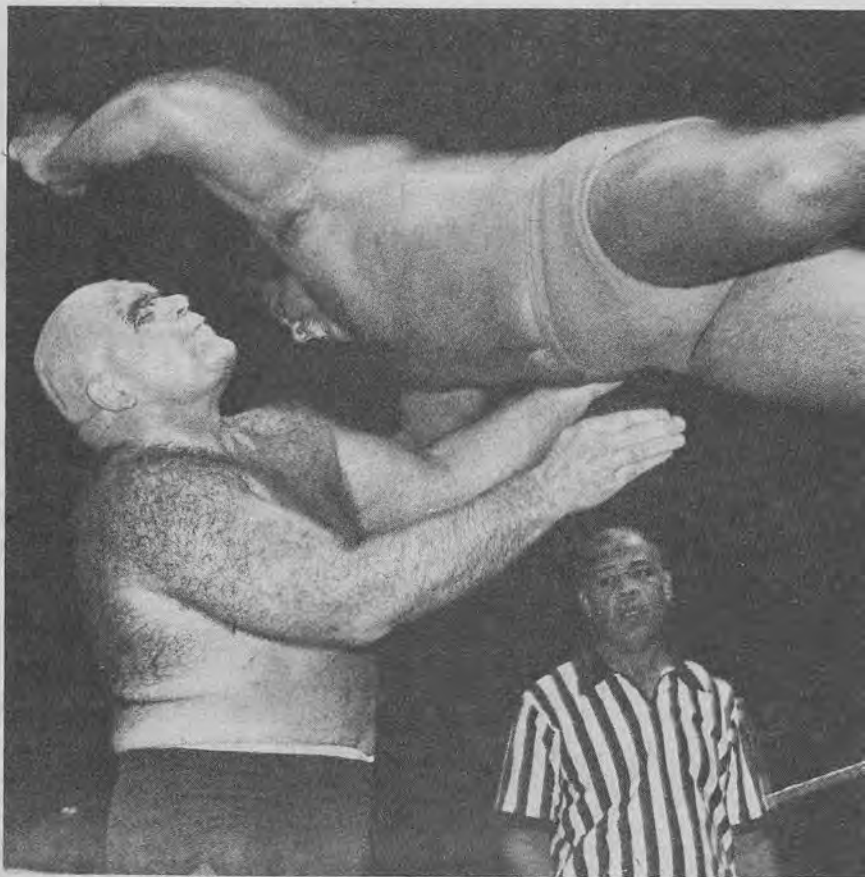
The story of George Steele is one that requires a more revealing explanation than simply maniac-turned-lunatic-turned-fan favorite-turned-mild-mannered-turned-articulate-turned-pitch man for a computer company.

Over the years, wrestling has known many so-called crazy men: men who



The Iron Sheik has some trouble with George Steele's unorthodox style. The Sheik has only himself and Nikolai Volkoff to blame for the fact that The Animal has become a fan favorite.





In the days when Steele wrestled for the WWF title against champions Bruno Sammartino (above left) and Pedro Morales (above right), at least he was able to put sentences together. He would eventually lose that ability. For an unknown reason, Steele rushed the ring during the classic encounter between Sammartino and Morales at Shea Stadium in 1972 (below).



appeared mysteriously, the products of sinister origins who have left wrestling fans and wrestlers guessing at their motivations. Men like The Missing Link, Abdullah the Butcher, Kamala the Ugandan Giant, The Sheik, Pampero Firpo, and the Canadian Wolfman arouse both curiosity and fear through their erratic and unfathomable ferocity. One fears what one can't understand, and the actions of these men were wholly undecipherable.

George "The Animal" Steele has long been regarded as wrestling's most elo-

quent madman. While the Link, The Sheik, Kamala, and the others raged in silence, Steele always boomed a simple threatening sentence or two. Additionally, Steele hailed from the not-so-exotic environs of Detroit, making his ring behavior much less hard to comprehend.

Bursting on the wrestling scene in the late 1960s, Steele immediately issued challenges to then-WWF champion Bruno Sammartino, demanding a title shot. His bizarre behavior, ranging from the routine chewing of turn-

buckles to the green color of his constantly lolling tongue, could not disguise Steele's awesome ring skills. His style was of a straightforward brutality, much in the tradition of Bulldog Brower and Abdullah, and he quickly annihilated all the competition standing between himself and Sammartino.

The Steele-Sammartino wars are remembered as being some of the most violent in the WWF's history. Steele taunted Sammartino out of the ring and battered him in the ring. Several times it seemed as if the Animal would wrest the crown from the champion, but he never did and he soon disappeared from the area.

Steele returned in the early 1970s to battle WWF champion Pedro Morales and the results were the same. Although he promised that he would "bring in a weapon so devastating and secretive that no one could find it and no man could defend against it," Steele was unable to win the title. Again he left the area.

The George Steele that returned in the early '80s was a different animal than The Animal to whom WWF fans had grown accustomed. This Steele still

*(Continued on page 64)*

# KILLER BROOKS Returns To Texas:

## CAN THE VON ERICHS TAKE AN OLD-FASHIONED BEATING?

***Killer Brooks didn't return to Texas because he liked the weather. He's back to settle some old scores and the local cowboys are tightening their spurs and checking their ammo in preparation***

*Photos by Buddy Myers*

FROM A CLOUD of plain's dust he appears without warning or reason. His manner is calculated, his confidence taunting. As he strides through town, his stares are met by the townspeople with a guilty lowering of heads; his eyes, a promise of icy death, foretell a vengeance built upon years of careful waiting. Justice in its most violent form is his vocation, and he has many wrongs to set straight before he can move on.

No, this is not the ad campaign for Clint Eastwood's newest spaghetti western, although the Texas locale lends a certain geographic analogy to this story. The man involved most certainly has a name, a name that is inspiring fear and apprehension throughout the World Class area.

The return of Killer Tim Brooks to Texas is being met by the same welcome wagon that the Japanese used to celebrate the return of Godzilla, only in this case, instead of towing nuclear bombs and ar-



Killer Brooks, who has returned to Texas angry and dangerous, knees Brian Adisas below the belt.

mored artillery, Texas is shoring up its defense with its favorite sons, the Von Erichs. The fear is that even the combined power of Kevin, Kerry, and Mike will not be enough to run Killer Brooks out of town. As

Brooks' manager Gary Hart tells it, there is no stopping Killer Brooks this time around.

"The last time Tim Brooks wrestled in Texas he was met by a uniformed hostility that made the Watergate conspiracy look like a grade school spy ring," mouthed Hart. "In every match, Brooks fought not only his opponent, but the referee, who was obviously instructed to count to one if Tim Brooks was pinned, and to five if Brooks was attempting the pin.

"He was fighting not only his opponent and the referee, but the commissioners, who ruled against him in every case. Tim Brooks was fighting a losing battle last time, but now the tables are turned. He has the power of revenge on his side and that, my friends, is not a power to be taken lightly."

Killer Brooks this time around is the countenance of doom. Before his matches, Brooks stands across the ring in a leather vest and steel-

*(Continued on page 58)*





# David Shultz Gets An NWA Title Shot



## **RIC FLAIR:** **"I WRESTLE THE MEN** **HULK HOGAN** **IS AFRAID OF!"**

*The ongoing battle between two of the sport's top three champions has taken a turn in favor of Ric Flair, as the three-time NWA champ continues to battle competition that, according to some, Hulk Hogan has steadfastly avoided*

Photos by Chaz Fenn

**I**N WHAT HAS to be the strangest analogy of all time, Ric Flair has compared himself to Mother Teresa, the Catholic missionary whose work for the poorest of the poor and the sickest of the sick have won her international acclaim as the world's preeminent humanitarian.

Flair uttered this blurb following a hard-fought match in West Warwick, Rhode Island, against the notorious "Dr. D," David Shultz. "Just call me the Mother Teresa of professional wrestling," Flair said from the confines of the dressing room whirlpool. "Just send me all those men who no one else will wrestle. Send me the most ferocious, the most savage, the inscrutables, the incorrigibles—go ahead send them all to me. I love 'em. The tougher they are, the better.

"You know Mother Teresa. She goes into those leper colonies, into those starving areas where all the cannibals live, just like she was going into your Aunt Mamie's living room. Fearless. Noble. She believes in God. Well, Ric Flair believes in Ric Flair.

"I'm not like Hulk Hogan. I wrestle them all. Big and small, skinny and fat—I don't pay any attention to what their reputations are. I wrestle them. That's why I'm the best damn wrestler in the world."

In another dressing room, a begrudging, if not downright ornery, David Shultz spoke admiringly of his opponent. "Hey, I was in the WWF for a long time," he said, "and no matter who I beat or how I tried, Hogan wouldn't give me a damn title shot for the last few months. I rassled him in the Garden for his first title defense and

we drew. But he never rassled me again. He was so scared of me that if he knew I was flying in the same plane or staying at the same hotel, he would change his flight and move to a hotel on the other side of town.

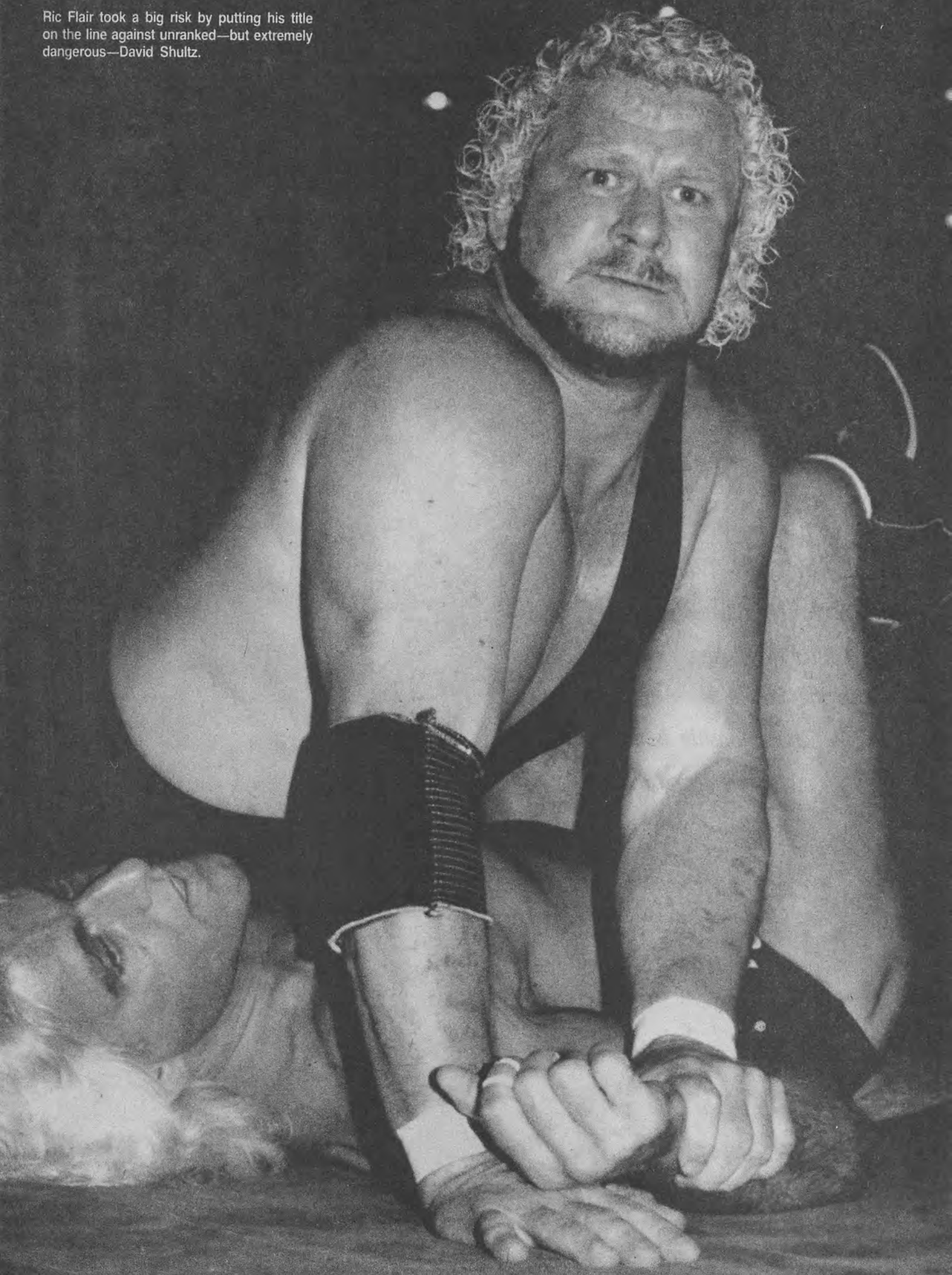
"Hogan's just a coward, plain and simple.

"This guy Flair didn't hesitate one second before giving me a title shot. He's a real champion. Didn't sidestep me or give me the runaround. I respect him for that.

"It wasn't just me, either. Billy Jack Haynes went to the WWF but was told point blank that he wasn't getting no title shot. Flair wrestled him. Same thing with Kamala. Hogan wouldn't go near him. Flair took him right on. Beat him, too. Yeah, Ric Flair's okay in my book, and my book is mighty thin." (Continued on page 62)



Ric Flair took a big risk by putting his title on the line against unranked—but extremely dangerous—David Shultz.

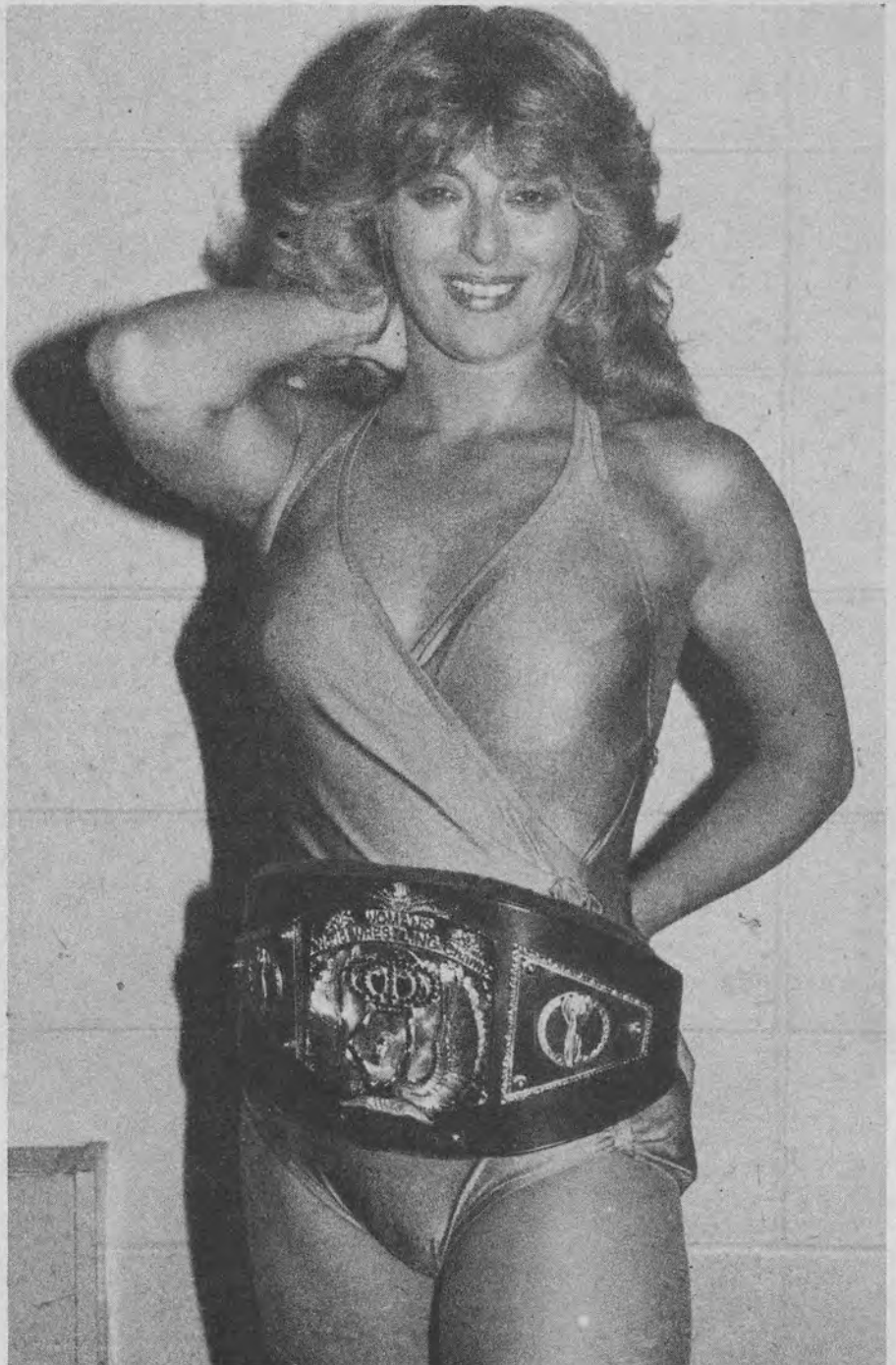


# ***IWF Champion Misty Blue***

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## **CHANGING THE LOOK OF WOMEN'S WRESTLING**

*According to IWF Women's  
champion Misty Blue Simmes,  
Wendi Richter's exclusive claim  
on the World Women's  
championship is in  
extreme jeopardy*



*Photos by Chaz Fenn*





Misty Blue Simmes flings a reluctant Kathy Lerux across the ring (left). Misty Blue increases the effectiveness of her bodyslam by grabbing her challenger's tights (below).



**“IF I CAN** make it there/I’ll make it anywhere/It’s up to you New York, New York . . .” Fade out, a backdrop of the New York skyline, cutting the air in regal splendor, impression pointedly made: This city’s capacity to cast unto its inhabitants the glow of fame and the ringing melody of success is without question. All one needs is an unwavering faith in magic and the restorative powers of Frank Sinatra’s platinum chords.

Of course it also helps if you pack a model’s body onto a 5’6” frame, can dropkick a wrestler into the fourth row, and possess the inner discipline of a Hindu ascetic.

Misty Blue Simmes, whose favorite pastime is driving her cherry red Porsche around Manhattan streets at dawn—fast—is such a person and if she has her way, which she seems to have, along with a penthouse apartment, a stock portfolio, and the phone numbers of half of New York’s most eligible bachelors, Wendi Richter’s grip

on the World Women’s wrestling championship will soon be a thing of the past.

It requires a dynamic sense of daring to impose one’s will on a city the size and dimensions of New York, and daring seems to fit neatly between Misty and Simmes.

“Wendi Richter is overrated,” Misty Blue says. “She’s a media creation. She can’t wrestle herself out of bed, yet she is the ‘undisputed World Women’s champion.’ Well, here I am, Wendi. You’re not likely to find a bigger dispute in your life. Take a look at my belt and take a look at your belt. And then let’s get in the ring and take care of business.”

Misty Blue Simmes’ belt celebrates her reign as the International Wrestling Federation’s Women’s champion. “I’m the undisputed World champ,” the curvy brunette says with an outrageous wink.

Simmes’ introduction to wrestling ranks alongside Sir Alexander Flem-

ing’s discovery of penicillin and Columbus’ discovery of America—great finds that were purely accidental. Simmes, a chemist by trade and president of her own chemical company, was taken to a wrestling match several years ago by some friends and became hooked. The more she watched of the sport, the more enchanted she became and the more disenchanted she became with the physical state of women’s wrestling.

“I got involved with wrestling because I love the sport,” she said. “I got tired of seeing old, fat, and ugly women dominate this sport. They should be smart enough to retire, or at least maintain their bodies and keep off the weight. Most of these women look like the before ads for obesity camps. I want to put *ladies* back into ladies’ wrestling.”

Simmes was no novice to the world of sports. She was already captain of the U.S. women’s boxing team, in addition to being an avid long distance



Misty Blue, who possesses good power for a woman standing 5'6" and weighing 118 pounds, scoops up Lerux for a bodyslam (left). Simmes finishes off her opponent with a cross-bodyblock (below), a maneuver she learned from Killer Kowalski.



runner and all-round sportswoman. To polish and refine her ring skills, Simmes enrolled in Killer Kowalski's wrestling school, which, she says, changed her life.

"I owe all my success in the ring to The Master, Killer Kowalski," she said. "He drives his students very hard and allowed me to realize my potential. He not only trains you physically, but he tests your mental limits as well to see if you can take the pressure of competition.

"I represent a new breed of athlete. One that is delicate as a rose, but who can also rip your lungs out if the occasion arises. I want to run these water buffalos out of professional wrestling. I'm serving you notice, each and every one of you, that my goal is to streamline female wrestling. I'm going to retire those who who don't measure up to my standards.

"When I'm done, promoters, the fans, and other wrestlers will thank me. Someone has to take this responsibility and I'm up for it. It's not a matter of money—I've got all the money I'll ever need—it's a matter of pride. Pride in appearance. Pride in performance. If there's one out of shape, lethargic dinosaur out there, it reflects on all of us. I simply won't

allow it."

Predictably, Simmes' favorite wrestlers are the Japanese women, whose acrobatic skills are world renowned. Her favorite male wrestlers, however, strike a discordant note. They are the lumbering, fearful but fleshful, Samoans.

"The Samoans are straightforward," explained Simmes. "They take no guff, are without smalltalk, and shoot from the hip. I admire that. The workman's ethic is lacking in a lot of today's wrestlers. They all want to be like Richter and Hogan. Glamour and glitter first. They don't understand that fame can't precede hard work. You

must expect to break a nail or two to reap any kind of reward. They're all soft. And after I get through with them, they'll all be mush."

We leave Misty Blue Simmes shimmering in the wispy trail of exhaust that her shiny Porsche leaves as it accelerates into the lurid promise of the Manhattan night. This woman works hard and plays hard, but the two are cleanly separated. If she ever gets the chance to wrestle Richter and if her assault on Wendi is anything like her invasion of Manhattan, we can expect Richter to feel a little night clubbing she'd rather avoid. □



# WRESTLING GREATS CHOOSE THEIR TOP TEN

**Our 20th anniversary celebration continues! In this special section, 10 top names in professional wrestling choose the 10 men that they consider to be the greatest wrestlers of the past two decades!**

**T**HERE'S A CERTAIN amount of awe that I feel when I talk to a wrestling legend like Bruno Sammartino, Buddy Rogers, Killer Kowalski, or Lou Thesz. These are men that have truly shaped the world of professional wrestling as we know it today.

When the editors of *The Wrestler* discussed the list of the top wrestlers of the past 20 years (the list was published in our August issue), we speculated on what kinds of lists people like Sammartino, Rogers, Kowalski, or Thesz would come up with.

It seemed like a good idea as part of our 20th anniversary celebration, so here we are!

In addition to legends like the four men mentioned above, we wanted to have some of today's top stars represented. So this section also includes lists from three top current stars in-

cluding Dusty Rhodes, Rick Martel and Magnum T.A.

And to help balance out this section, we felt it would be interesting to see how some non-ring wrestling personalities view the great names of the past 20 years. So we've solicited lists from veteran wrestling announcer Gordon Solie, longtime Texas promoter Paul Boesch, and noted referee Dick Kroll.

We hope you find the choices made by these 10 men interesting, and maybe they'll help you in your own consideration of the Top 10 of the past 20 years (a ballot for you to send us your top 10 is included on page 41).

And continue to keep an eye on *The Wrestler* in the months to come for more special features and sections commemorating our 20th year of publication!

—Bill Apter



## BRUNO SAMMARTINO

- 1—KILLER KOWALSKI
- 2—DON LEO JONATHAN
- 3—DR. BILL MILLER
- 4—KEN PATERA
- 5—BUDDY ROGERS
- 6—VERNE GAGNE
- 7—GORILLA MONSOON
- 8—PROF. TORU TANAKA
- 9—IVAN KOLOFF
- 10—PEDRO MORALES

Bruno Sammartino is known as "wrestling's living legend." He is the only man to have held the WWF heavyweight title on two occasions, for a total reign of over 11 years.



## GORDON SOLIE

- 1—EDDIE GRAHAM
- 2—RIC FLAIR
- 3—DORY FUNK JR.
- 4—JACK BRISCO
- 5—WAHOO McDANIEL
- 6—DON CURTIS
- 7—HARLEY RACE
- 8—DAVID VON ERICH
- 9—DUSTY RHODES
- 10—CHARLIE COOK

Gordon Solie is a veteran wrestling announcer who began calling matches in 1959. He has been called "The Walter Cronkite of Professional Wrestling."



## PAUL BOESCH

- 1—WAHOO McDANIEL
- 2—JOHNNY VALENTINE
- 3—HARLEY RACE
- 4—DORY FUNK JR.
- 5—HACKSAW JIM DUGGAN
- 6—NICK BOCKWINKEL
- 7—KERRY VON ERICH
- 8—JOSE LOTHARIO
- 9—MAGNUM T.A.
- 10—TED DiBIASE

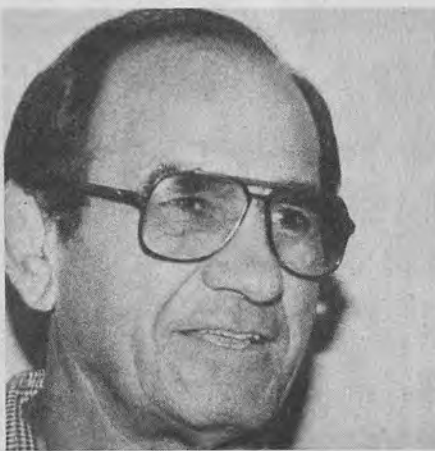
*Paul Boesch has promoted wrestling in Houston since 1949. Prior to then, he promoted matches around the country, announced television matches, and—in the 1930s—wrestled hundreds of matches against the sport's top stars.*



## MAGNUM T.A.

- 1—DUSTY RHODES
- 2—LOU THESZ
- 3—EDDIE GRAHAM
- 4—JACK BRISCO
- 5—DORY FUNK JR.
- 6—FRITZ VON ERICH
- 7—HARLEY RACE
- 8—RAY STEVENS
- 9—BUDDY ROGERS
- 10—JOHNNY VALENTINE

*Magnum T.A. is the current U.S. heavy-weight champion, and is widely recognized as the fastest-rising star in the NWA today.*



## LOU THESZ

- 1—BOB BACKLUND
- 2—IRON SHEIK
- 3—RIC FLAIR
- 4—BRUISER BRODY
- 5—CARLOS COLON
- 6—JACK BRISCO
- 7—ANTONIO INOKI
- 8—BILLY ROBINSON
- 9—DANNY HODGE
- 10—VERNE GAGNE

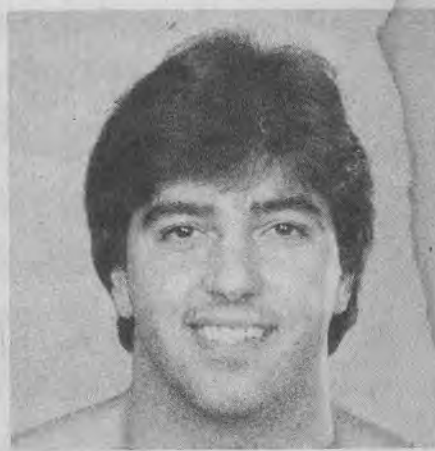
*Lou Thesz is acknowledged world wide as one of the greatest wrestlers of all time. He has held the NWA World title on six separate occasions for a total reign of nearly 13 years.*



## DUSTY RHODES

- 1—HARLEY RACE
- 2—TERRY FUNK
- 3—FRITZ VON ERICH
- 4—WAHOO McDANIEL
- 5—DICK MURDOCH
- 6—RAY STEVENS
- 7—JOHNNY VALENTINE
- 8—BILL WATTS
- 9—OLE ANDERSON
- 10—TULLY BLANCHARD

*Dusty Rhodes, known as "The American Dream," is one of the most popular wrestlers of all time. He has held the NWA title on two separate occasions.*



## RICK MARTEL

- 1—DORY FUNK JR.
- 2—JACK BRISCO
- 3—VERNE GAGNE
- 4—MR. WRESTLING II
- 5—NICK BOCKWINKEL
- 6—RAY STEVENS
- 7—DON LEO JONATHAN
- 8—BOB BACKLUND
- 9—BILLY ROBINSON
- 10—JUMBO TSURUTA

*Rick Martel is the current AWA heavy-weight champion, having defeated Jumbo Tsuruta for that title on May 13, 1984, in St. Louis.*



## DICK KROLL

- 1—BRUNO SAMMARTINO
- 2—VERNE GAGNE
- 3—HARLEY RACE
- 4—BOB BACKLUND
- 5—PEDRO MORALES
- 6—DORY FUNK JR.
- 7—RIC FLAIR
- 8—JACK BRISCO
- 9—NICK BOCKWINKEL
- 10—HULK HOGAN

*Dick Kroll has been a wrestling referee for over 20 years. He has officiated championship matches involving most of the top names in the sport over the past two decades.*





## BUDDY ROGERS

- 1—NICK BOCKWINKEL/  
DON MURACO (TIE)
- 2—RAY STEVENS
- 3—RIC FLAIR
- 4—RICK MARTEL
- 5—HULK HOGAN
- 6—DUSTY RHODES
- 7—TONGA KID
- 8—JIMMY SNUKA
- 9—JOHN STUDD
- 10—MAGNUM T.A.

Buddy Rogers was the first WWF heavy-weight champion ever, and has also held the NWA title. He is the only man in history to wear both of those championship belts.



## KILLER KOWALSKI

- 1—BRUNO SAMMARTINO
- 2—VERNE GAGNE
- 3—DON LEO JONATHAN
- 4—HULK HOGAN
- 5—EDOUARD CARPENTIER
- 6—JIMMY SNUKA
- 7—NICK BOCKWINKEL
- 8—JOHN STUDD
- 9—JOHNNY VALENTINE
- 10—ANDRE THE GIANT

Killer Kowalski, credited by many as having invented the clawhold, is one of the most feared rulebreakers of all time. He currently operates a wrestling school in Massachusetts.

# 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration

## THE CELEBRATION CONTINUES!

In our special 20th anniversary celebration issue of *The Wrestler* (August/1985), we invited readers to send us their choices for the 10 best wrestlers of the last 20 years. If you haven't filled out your ballot yet, here's another chance for you to do so. In our big anniversary issue, we had a special color section featuring the 12 wrestlers who the staff of *The Wrestler* chose as their picks for the all-time best. As a guide in helping you make your choice, we have reprinted our selections in alphabetical order. Remember, your choices need not be our choices.

**The Wrestler's 12 Best:** Bob Backlund; Nick Bockwinkel; Jack Brisco; Ric Flair; Verne Gagne; Hulk Hogan; Don Leo Jonathan; Mil Mascaras; Harley Race; Dusty Rhodes; Bruno Sammartino; The Sheik

## THE BALLOT

In this special fan ballot, write in *your* choices for the 10 best wrestlers of the last 20 years.

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_
7. \_\_\_\_\_
8. \_\_\_\_\_
9. \_\_\_\_\_
10. \_\_\_\_\_

Mail ballot to:

**THE WRESTLER TOP 10**

c/o *The Wrestler*, Box 48, Rockville Centre, NY 11571

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ AGE: \_\_\_\_\_

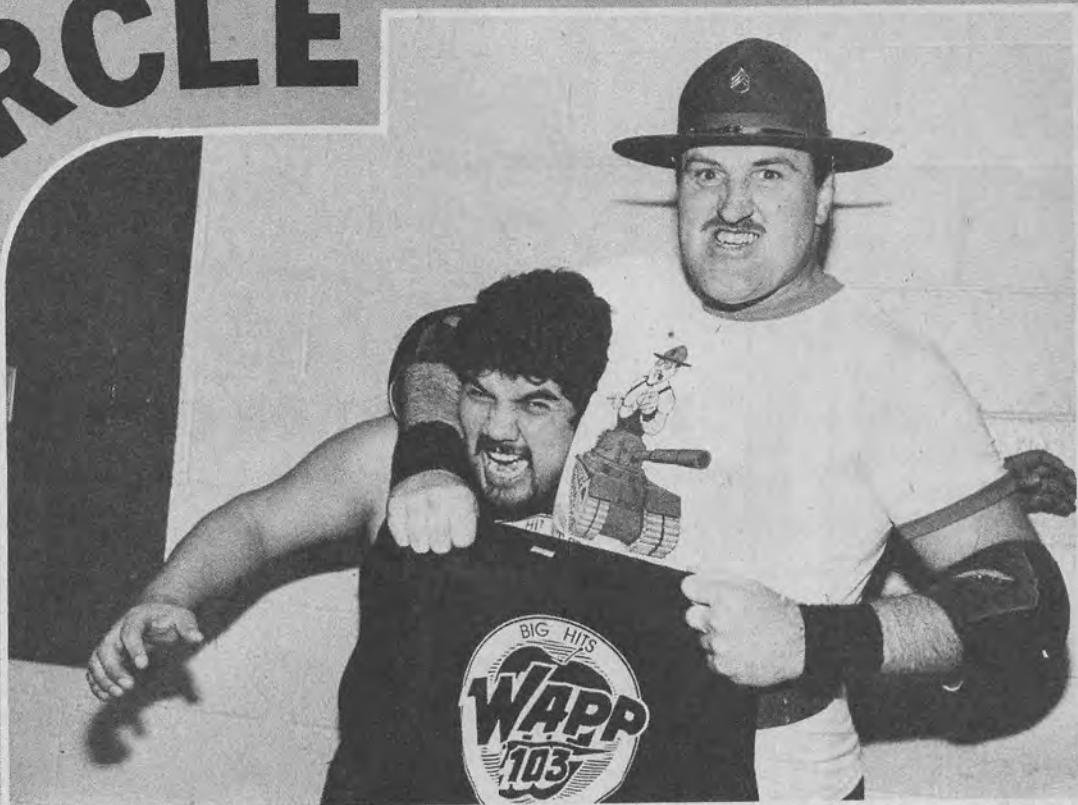
ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

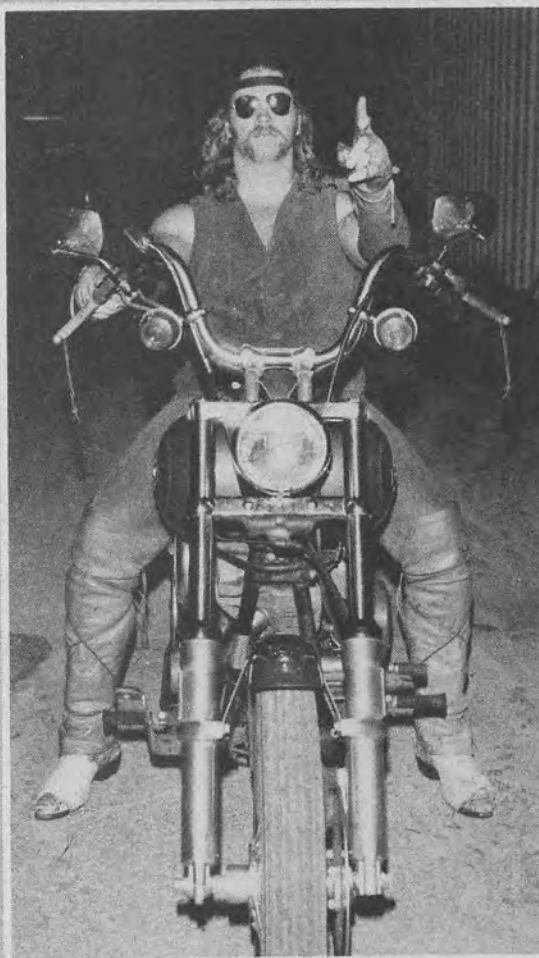
ADDITIONAL COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_\_

# BEYOND THE SQUARED CIRCLE



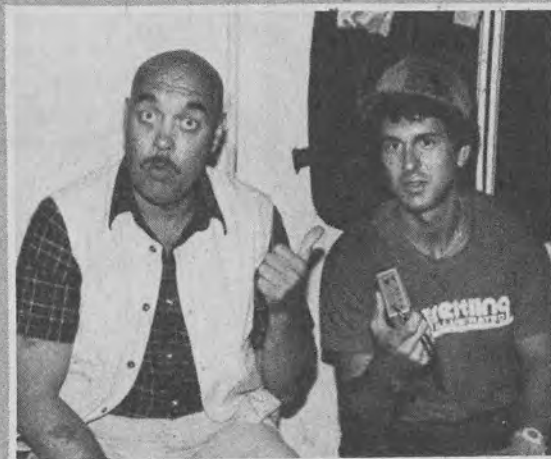
Sgt. Slaughter does a little advertising for New York radio station WAPP in the locker room at the Meadowlands Arena. And disc jockey Willie Sanchez is grateful ... somewhat.



Bill Irwin warns photographer Bill Otten that if "he doesn't move, he's going to become part of the sidewalk."



"Dr. D" David Shultz is not one of Mr. T's biggest fans.

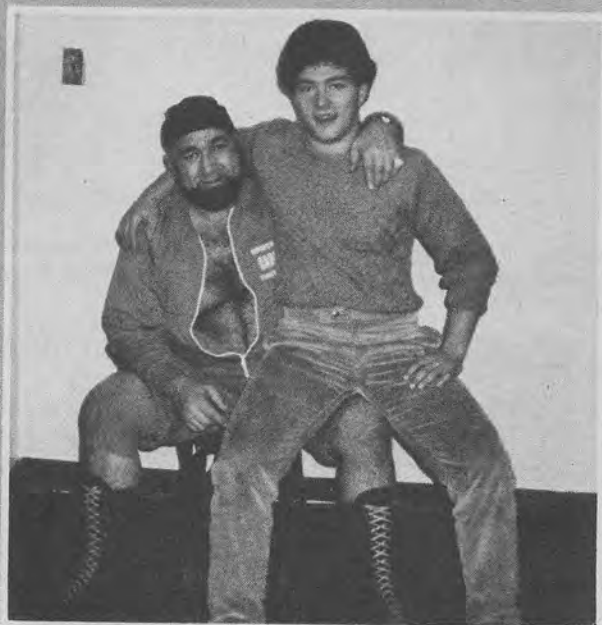


Gary Hart admittedly doesn't care for many reporters. For some reason, he took a liking to Assistant Editor Eddie Ellner.

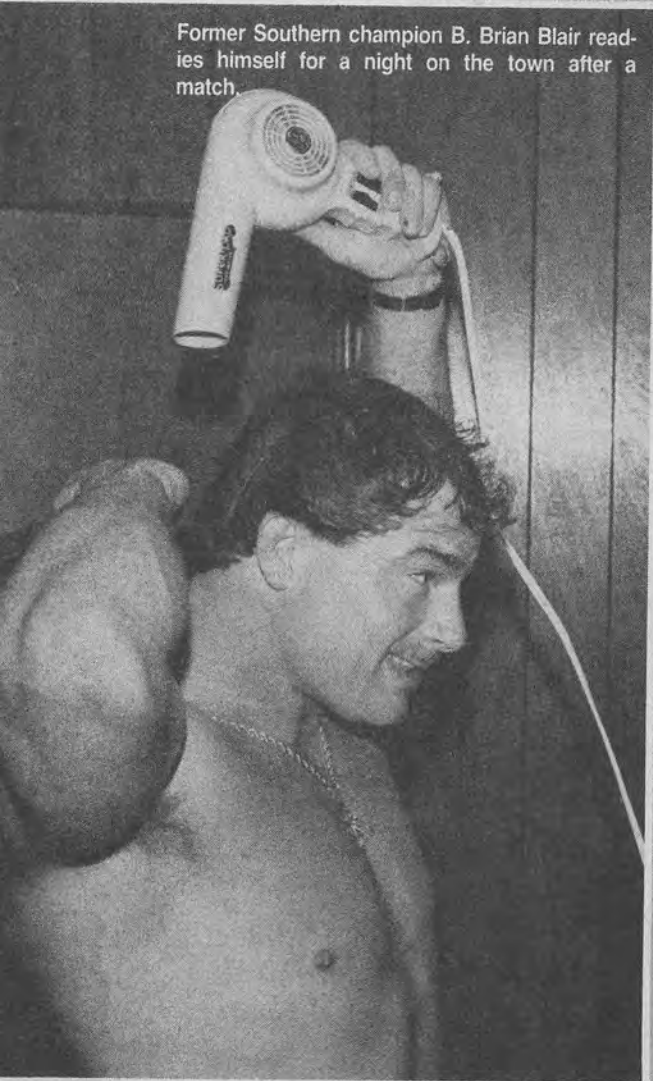




Bruiser Brody defies his doctor's order to cut flower out of his diet.



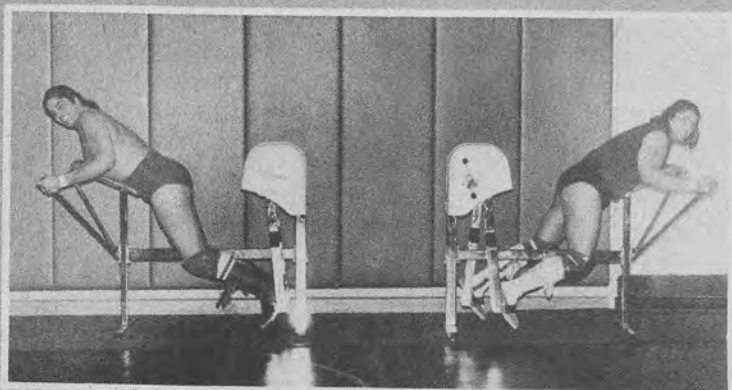
Jos LeDuc would bring his son Robert into the dressing room from the time he could sit on his knee. Robert is getting a little big for that now!



Former Southern champion B. Brian Blair reads himself for a night on the town after a match.



Rick Steamboat jokingly strikes up a pose after arriving at our offices for a photo session and interview.



Mark and Jay Youngblood push each other to work out harder during their workout sessions.

# OFF WRESTLIN

Top 10 and Tag Team ratings are based on won-lost records for the past month, quality of opposition, and inherent skill of each wrestler or team. These ratings are compiled by the magazine's editorial board.



Dusty Rhodes

## TOP 10

- 1—**RIC FLAIR**  
243, Minneapolis, MN
- 2—**RICK MARTEL**  
236, Quebec City, Quebec
- 3—**HULK HOGAN**  
302, Venice Beach, CA
- 4—**MAGNUM T.A.**  
245, Chesapeake, VA
- 5—**DUSTY RHODES**  
302, Austin, TX
- 6—**KERRY VON ERICH**  
260, Denton, TX
- 7—**NIKITA KOLOFF**  
275, Moscow, Russia
- 8—**SGT. SLAUGHTER**  
310, Parris Island, SC
- 9—**CHRIS ADAMS**  
230, Stratford, England
- 10—**RICK STEAMBOAT**  
238, Honolulu, HI

## TAG TEAMS

- 1—**THE ROAD WARRIORS**  
AWA World tag team champions  
Combined weight: 567 pounds
- 2—**IVAN & NIKITA KOLOFF**  
NWA World tag team champions  
Combined weight: 524 pounds
- 3—**BARRY WINDHAM & MIKE ROTUNDO**  
WWF World tag team champions  
Combined weight: 475 pounds
- 4—**TED DIBLASE & STEVE WILLIAMS**  
Mid-South tag team champions  
Combined weight: 535 pounds
- 5—**CHRIS ADAMS & GINO HERNANDEZ**  
World Class tag team champions  
Combined weight: 454 pounds
- 6—**OLE & ARN ANDERSON**  
National tag team champions  
Combined weight: 525 pounds
- 7—**RICK RUDE & JESSE BARR**  
U.S. tag team champions  
Combined weight: 489 pounds
- 8—**RICK MORTON & ROBERT GIBSON**  
No. 1 contenders to National tag team title  
Combined weight: 453 pounds
- 9—**NIKOLAI VOLKOFF & IRON SHEIK**  
No. 1 contenders to WWF tag team title  
Combined weight: 607 pounds
- 10—**JONATHAN BOYD & RIP MORGAN**  
Mid-Southern tag team champions  
Combined weight: 542 pounds

NWA, AWA, and WWF ratings, in addition to the regional ratings from around the country, are based on the official current position of challengers to the top title in each category. (Certain titleholders receive an automatic spot in the ratings). Most Popular and Most Hated ratings are based on nationwide surveys of wrestling fans and mail that comes to our offices.

## NWA

World Champion:  
**RIC FLAIR**

243, Minneapolis, MN

- 1—**MAGNUM T.A.**  
245, Chesapeake, VA
- 2—**JERRY BLACKWELL**  
474, Stone Mountain, GA
- 3—**DUSTY RHODES**  
302, Austin, TX
- 4—**BLACK BART**  
301, Houston, TX
- 5—**NIKITA KOLOFF**  
275, Moscow, Russia
- 6—**CHRIS ADAMS**  
230, Stratford, England
- 7—**KERRY VON ERICH**  
260, Denton, TX
- 8—**HERCULES HERNANDEZ**  
252, Tampa, FL
- 9—**GINO HERNANDEZ**  
224, Houston, TX
- 10—**TULLY BLANCHARD**  
235, San Antonio, TX

## AWA

World Champion:  
**RICK MARTEL**

236, Quebec City, Quebec

- 1—**SGT. SLAUGHTER**  
310, Parris Island, SC
- 2—**MICHAEL HAYES**  
255, Marietta, GA
- 3—**LARRY ZBYSZKO**  
248, Pittsburgh, PA
- 4—**NICK BOCKWINKEL**  
245, Beverly Hills, CA
- 5—**BUTCH REED**  
265, Kansas City, MO
- 6—**THE TONGA KID**  
226, Tonga
- 7—**JERRY BLACKWELL**  
474, Stone Mountain, GA
- 8—**KAMALA**  
360, Uganda
- 9—**MASKED SUPERSTAR**  
282, Atlanta, GA
- 10—**RAY STEVENS**  
243, San Francisco, CA

## WWF

World Champion:  
**HULK HOGAN**

302, Venice Beach, CA

- 1—**GREG VALENTINE**  
243, Seattle, WA
- 2—**MAGNIFICENT MURACO**  
274, Sunset Beach, HA
- 3—**RICK STEAMBOAT**  
238, Honolulu, HI
- 4—**PAUL ORNDORFF**  
253, Brandon, FL
- 5—**JUNKYARD DOG**  
260, New Orleans, LA
- 6—**TITO SANTANA**  
245, Mission, TX
- 7—**RODDY PIPER**  
231, Scotland
- 8—**JOHN STUDD**  
364, Washington, DC
- 9—**JIMMY SNUKA**  
250, Fiji Islands
- 10—**KING KONG BUNDY**  
446, Atlantic City, NJ

## WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

- 1—**MAGNUM T.A.**  
245, Chesapeake, VA
- 2—**BLACK BART**  
301, Houston, TX
- 3—**TULLY BLANCHARD**  
235, San Antonio, TX
- 4—**DUSTY RHODES**  
302, Austin, TX
- 5—**NIKITA KOLOFF**  
275, Moscow, Russia
- 6—**MANNY FERNANDEZ**  
245, El Paso, TX
- 7—**DICK SLATER**  
235, Tampa, FL
- 8—**SUPERSTAR GRAHAM**  
260, Paradise Valley, AZ
- 9—**JIMMY VALIANT**  
251, New York, NY
- 10—**KEVIN SULLIVAN**  
235, Boston, MA



# CIAL G RATINGS

## WORLD CLASS

- 1—CHRIS ADAMS  
230, Stratford, England
- 2—GINO HERNANDEZ  
224, Houston, TX
- 3—KERRY VON ERICH  
260, Denton, TX
- 4—KEVIN VON ERICH  
239, Denton, TX
- 5—ONE MAN GANG  
468, Chicago, IL
- 6—KABUKI  
252, Singapore
- 7—KILLER BROOKS  
235, Lancaster, TX
- 8—SCOTT CASEY  
242, San Antonio, TX
- 9—MIKE VON ERICH  
220, Denton, TX
- 10—BRIAN ADIDAS  
238, Denton, TX

## MID-SOUTH

- 1—THE NIGHTMARE  
285, parts unknown
- 2—DICK MURDOCH  
270, Waxahachie, TX
- 3—TED DiBIASE  
247, Omaha, NB
- 4—THE SNOWMAN  
250, Memphis, TN
- 5—HACKSAW DUGGAN  
280, New York, NY
- 6—STEVE WILLIAMS  
295, Tulsa, OK
- 7—KAMALA  
360, Uganda
- 8—JAKE ROBERTS  
243, Baton Rouge, LA
- 9—ICEMAN PARSONS  
245, St. Louis, MO
- 10—DUTCH MANTEL  
242, Oil Trough, TX

## FLORIDA

- 1—HERCULES HERNANDEZ  
252, Tampa, FL
- 2—HECTOR GUERRERO  
243, Mexico
- 3—JESSE BARR  
243, Portland, OR
- 4—RICK RUDE  
246, Robbinsdale, MN
- 5—WAHOO McDANIEL  
260, Midland, TX
- 6—BILLY JACK HAYNES  
245, Portland, OR
- 7—BLACKJACK MULLIGAN  
310, Sweetwater, TX
- 8—BUGSY McGRAW  
268, New York, NY
- 9—MIKE GRAHAM  
229, Tampa, FL
- 10—RIP ROGERS  
238, Atlanta, GA

## MID-SOUTHERN

- 1—BOTA  
270, Maori Islands
- 2—TERRY TAYLOR  
225, Vero Beach, FL
- 3—JERRY LAWLER  
234, Memphis, TN
- 4—BRUISER BRODY  
300, Albuquerque, NM
- 5—JERRY OSKE  
243, Hartford, CT
- 6—JAY YOUNGBLOOD  
234, Amarillo, TX
- 7—LORD JONATHAN BOYD  
255, Auckland, New Zealand
- 8—TOJO YAMAMOTO  
230, Tokyo, Japan
- 9—RIP MORGAN  
250, Auckland, New Zealand
- 10—BILLY TRAVIS  
218, Houston, TX

## MISSOURI

- 1—JERRY BLACKWELL  
474, Stone Mountain, GA
- 2—HARLEY RACE  
253, Kansas City, MO
- 3—KERRY VON ERICH  
260, Denton, TX
- 4—BOB BACKLUND  
242, Princeton, MN
- 5—WAHOO McDANIEL  
260, Midland, TX
- 6—MR. POGO  
255, Tokyo, Japan
- 7—BUTCH REED  
265, Kansas City, MO
- 8—ICEMAN PARSONS  
232, St. Louis, MO
- 9—TED DiBIASE  
247, Omaha, NB
- 10—BULLDOG BOB BROWN  
258, Winnipeg, Manitoba

## NORTHWEST

- 1—MIKE MILLER  
260, Memphis, TN
- 2—BOBBY JAGGERS  
265, Dunlap, KS
- 3—KENDO NAGASAKI  
248, Singapore
- 4—KARL STEINER  
250, East Germany
- 5—CURT HENNIG  
235, Minneapolis, MN
- 6—PLAYBOY BUDDY ROSE  
245, Hollywood, CA
- 7—RICKY VAUGHAN  
245, Tampa, FL
- 8—MEGA MAHARISHI  
260, Portland, OR
- 9—RIP OLIVER  
245, Tampa, FL
- 10—MR. EBONY  
242, parts unknown

## MOST POPULAR

- 1—HULK HOGAN  
302, Venice Beach, CA
- 2—KERRY VON ERICH  
260, Denton, TX
- 3—MAGNUM T.A.  
245, Chesapeake, VA
- 4—DUSTY RHODES  
302, Austin, TX
- 5—RICK MARTEL  
236, Quebec City, Quebec
- 6—SGT. SLAUGHTER  
310, Parris Island, SC
- 7—JUNKYARD DOG  
260, New Orleans, LA
- 8—KEVIN VON ERICH  
239, Denton, TX
- 9—WAHOO McDANIEL  
260, Midland, TX
- 10—TERRY TAYLOR  
225, Vero Beach, FL

## MOST HATED

- 1—RODDY PIPER  
231, Glasgow, Scotland
- 2—CHRIS ADAMS  
230, Stratford, England
- 3—TULLY BLANCHARD  
235, San Antonio, TX
- 4—NIKITA KOLOFF  
276, Moscow, Russia
- 5—GINO HERNANDEZ  
224, Houston, TX
- 6—GREG VALENTINE  
243, Seattle, WA
- 7—TED DiBIASE  
247, Omaha, NB
- 8—RICK RUDE  
246, Robbinsdale, MN
- 9—KEVIN SULLIVAN  
235, Boston, MA
- 10—JOHN STUDD  
364, Washington, DC

For period ended June 26, 1985

# RATINGS ANALYSIS

Every month, this column will tell fans how we go about rating more than 150 wrestlers in 14 different categories. It is a behind-the-scenes look at the most important—and respected—ratings system in the sport. This column is vital reading for all wrestling fans.

**The world title controversy—settled.** In the July 1985 edition of *The Wrestler*, "Ratings Analysis" solicited reader mail regarding the question: "Should the WWF title be regarded as a world championship?" That "Ratings Analysis" examined arguments for and against recognizing Hulk Hogan as a world champion, in the same way that Ric Flair and Rick Martel are world champions.



**Hulk Hogan**

Mail flooded our office. Last month's "Ratings Analysis" presented excerpts from some of your letters regarding this championship controversy. As this issue goes to press, a decision has been made: The WWF title will now be regarded as a world championship, equal in significance to the NWA and AWA World Championships.

We anticipate a lot of reader reaction to come from this decision. Indeed, the editorial staff of *The Wrestler* continues to be split about whether this move should have been made, but we all agree on one thing: This was a democratic decision. Majority rules. And the majority of your mail (about 60 percent) came out in favor of recognizing Hogan as a world champion.

So, in the ratings, in "Ratings Analysis," and in the stories that you will read in *The Wrestler* and its sister publications, the WWF heavyweight title and the WWF tag team title will be recognized as world championships.

We are as interested in your reactions to this decision now as we were interested in your answers to the question made months ago. If you would like to voice your opinion on the WWF world championship controversy, we would like to hear from you. If reaction warrants, a future "Ratings Analysis" will be devoted entirely to your letters on the matter.

Send your comments to: "WWF Ratings Analysis" c/o *The Wrestler*; Box 48; Rockville Centre; New York 11571.

**A dip into the reader mailbag:** From time to time, "Ratings Analysis" will answer questions posed by readers that relate to our monthly ratings system.

Steve Torelli, Swarthmore, PA: "I am sending you this in reference to the Top 10. I feel instead of putting a picture next to the Top 10, you ought to take out the picture and make it the Top 20 instead. If you ask me, I feel this would be a tremendous move for your ratings, and I believe other fans feel the same. You see, when I pick up *The Wrestler* or

*Pro Wrestling Illustrated* (and all your other sister publications), the first thing I look at is your ratings, and I wish there were more ratings in the magazine."

Steve brings up a suggestion that has been very common among correspondents to "Ratings Analysis." We've thought for a long time about ways to expand our ratings, and from time to time we've included a "second 10" listing of various categories in "Ratings Analysis." But to include a Top 20 category without listing 20 names in each of the other categories seemed unfair; and from a purely visual standpoint, we feel that highlighting one of the wrestlers in the top 10 is an attractive feature.

For those of you who, like Steve, are looking for more ratings, we address your attention to *Inside Wrestling*, where the ratings now include the top 15 names in each of the following categories: Top 15, NWA, AWA, WWF, Most Popular, Most Hated, and Tag Teams. *Inside Wrestling* also includes a "Roll Call of Champions" in its ratings, a listing of nearly 60 titles, the wrestlers who hold those titles, and when that title was won.

Rich Wilson, Philadelphia: "I love your ratings system and 'Ratings Analysis,' but how come the 'Ratings Analysis' is the same in *Pro Wrestling Illustrated* as it is in *The Wrestler* as it is in *Sports Review Wrestling*? Why don't you do a different analysis for each magazine?"

Actually, Rich, we try to make each "Ratings Analysis" as different as possible, though you're right: There are similarities within each month's series of magazines. This is mainly due to the fact that some issues are very important and bear repeating from magazine to magazine, such as the WWF World title controversy. And since many fans may only read one of the above-mentioned magazines, we want to make sure that everyone is filled in on the important developments. You'll also note that when we feature an extra category in our ratings, such as Polynesian Pacific ratings, the rankings change from issue to issue, depending on the deadline of when that issue went to press.

Alyssa Hernandez, San Antonio, TX: "I'm a real Von Erich fan. Why aren't the Von Erichs in the tag team category? Why are they so underrated? They all deserve much more credit than they're receiving."

Mark Lassiter, Dallas: "I am so sick of the Von Erichs. Why are they always so high in your ratings? They're the most overrated clods in the entire sport."

You can please all of the people some of the time ...

**The address for mail:** We always like to read your comments and questions about our ratings system. Send them to: "Ratings Analysis" c/o *The Wrestler*; Box 48; Rockville Centre; New York 11571.



## YOUR LETTERS

(Continued from page 6)



Adrian Adonis has the skills to defeat Hulk Hogan, Rick Martel, and Ric Flair, in the view of Jason Martinez.

nis is capable of beating Hogan, Martel, and Flair. I strongly suggest jumping on the bandwagon before it gets filled to capacity.

JASON MARTINEZ  
Loveland, CO



Nikolai Volkoff overpowers Mike Rotundo during a tag team match.

## YOUNG LIONS ROAR

I disagree with the statement in the August '85 issue of *The Wrestler*, which read "The Truth Hurts: Sheik & Volkoff Are Too Tough For Windham And Rotundo." If the Sheik and Volkoff are so tough, why did they use a cane to defeat Windham and Rotundo? Couldn't they have used their power and toughness to win the

(Continued on page 50)

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| <input type="checkbox"/> MAY/76      | <input type="checkbox"/> MAY/78      | <input type="checkbox"/> JUNE/79      |                                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> JULY/76     | <input type="checkbox"/> JUNE/78     | <input type="checkbox"/> JULY/79      |                                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> NOVEMBER/76 | <input type="checkbox"/> JULY/78     | <input type="checkbox"/> DECEMBER/79  |                                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> AUGUST/77   | <input type="checkbox"/> AUGUST/78   | <input type="checkbox"/> MARCH/80     |                                       |

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| <input type="checkbox"/> PICTURE BOOK SPR/78    | <input type="checkbox"/> SUPERSTARS SPR/80        | <input type="checkbox"/> BEN STRONG MAY/74       |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> PICTURE BOOK SUM/79    | <input type="checkbox"/> BEST OF WRESTLER SUM/77  | <input type="checkbox"/> BEN STRONG SUM/75       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> PICTURE BOOK JAN/80    | <input type="checkbox"/> BEST OF WRESTLER FALL/77 | <input type="checkbox"/> BEN STRONG SEPT/75      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> PICTURE BOOK SPR/80    | <input type="checkbox"/> BEST OF WRESTLER WIN/77  | <input type="checkbox"/> WRESTLING ALBUM #4      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SUPERSTARS APR/77      | <input type="checkbox"/> BEST OF WRESTLER SPR/78  |  |
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## YOUR LETTERS

(Continued from page 47)

title? The Sheik and Volkoff are two bits of foreign scum who have no scientific knowledge of the sport, possess no redeeming qualities as human beings, and should be deported to the furthest reaches of the universe. Windham and Rotundo will regain the belts because they have class, style, and skill. Volkoff and Sheik might have cheated their way to the top but will never be able to stay there.

BEN COUGHLIN  
Concord, MA

### READ REED RIGHT

Your story in the July '85 *The Wrestler* entitled, "Will Butch Reed Betray His Fans Again?" hit the nail right on the head. Sure enough, like month old milk, ol' Butch has turned on his fans. He's hated. I must admit that I liked him when he was good



As *The Wrestler* predicted, Butch Reed has changed his ways and is again hated by the fans.

and I still have a soft spot in my heart for him, but he must learn that the fans' loyalties cannot be played with like some Tonka toy. If we like someone, then there is nothing we won't do to show our support. That is a privilege. I still like Butch more than Rick Martel, whose wrestling is about as exciting as curdled milk. I wish Butch the best of luck in whatever way his crazy career takes him.

ROBERT WILBUR  
Beaver Falls, PA □



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(Continued from page 12)



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big brothers who were older than me, Kevin and David, who wouldn't have taken kindly to anyone picking one me. And to be honest with you I could always take care of my own affairs. Plus most of the kids liked my dad. Just because he broke a couple of rules in the ring, didn't change the fact that he was a nice guy."

\*\*\*

Q: "My question is for Manny Fernandez: How come you and Dusty Rhodes haven't tried to win the NWA tag team belts back?" — Kathy Hardin, High Point, NC

A: "We thought we'd give tag teaming a rest for a while," The Raging Bull explained. "Dusty wanted to go out on that 'Slam That Sucker Down' tour for quite a while and having the belts had always prevented him from doing so. I also wanted to do a little singles wrestling myself, maybe pluck me a little championship belt I could call my own. But we'll be back together. You don't think me and Dusty

After losing the NWA tag team title, Dusty Rhodes and Manny Fernandez have wrestled primarily as singles. There is still the possibility that they will get back together.

could allow those damn Russians to get too comfortable with our belts, do you?"

\*\*\*

Q: "I have a question for Exotic Adrian Street: Would you consider forming a tag team with the Great Kabuki? You two would be awesome! If not, how about coming to Georgia and getting rid of Dusty 'The Butterball' Rhodes for us?" — Tony Macaro, Bedford, MI

A: "The Great Kabuki? Oh goodness, my, out of the question!," Exotic Adrian exclaimed. "His makeup is so incredibly tacky. I'd be embarrassed to be seen in public with him. And Dusty Rhodes, gross! I think I'd throw up if I touched him. Dusty should really cut down on his fats and carbohydrates or else his poor, little old heart is going to stop ticking soon." □



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**July 1980/COLOR STARSHOT:** The Sheik. Cover story: Bruno Sammartino. **PLUS:** Wrestling II, Race, Ladd, Albano.

**August 1980/COLOR STARSHOT:** Koff and Smirnov. Cover story: Bruno vs. Zbyszko. **PLUS:** Idol, Von Erichs, Rhodes, Hogan.

**May 1982/COLOR POSTER:** Ric Flair. Cover story: Wrestling II vs. Spoiler. **PLUS:** Backlund, McDaniel, Piper.

**June 1982/COLOR POSTER:** Nick Bockwinkel. Cover story: Adonis & Ventura. **PLUS:** Snuka, Patera, Flair.

**August 1982/COLOR POSTER:** Dino Bravo. Cover story: Steamboat & Rich. **PLUS:** Andre, Martel, Piper, Blassie.

**September 1982/COLOR POSTER:** Blackjack Mulligan Jr. Cover story: Tommy Rich. **PLUS:** Snuka, Von Erich, Martel, AWA Sheiks.

**October 1982/COLOR POSTER:** Jerry Lawler. Cover story: Ric Flair. **PLUS:** Rhodes, Graham, Race, Funk Jr.

**December 1982/COLOR POSTER:** Rick Martel. Cover story: Hulk Hogan. **PLUS:** Von Erich, Orndorff, Albano.

**January 1983/COLOR POSTER:** Ken Patera. Cover story: Rick Steamboat. **PLUS:** Rich, Brody, Sullivan, Backlund.

**February 1983/COLOR POSTER:** Ivan Putski. Cover story: Rhodes vs. Garvin. **PLUS:** Snuka, Super Destroyer, Bockwinkel, Funk.

**April 1983/COLOR POSTER:** Superstar Graham. Cover story: Mil Mascaras. **PLUS:** Valentine, Orndorff, Hart.

**June 1983/COLOR POSTER:** Cowboy Bob Orton. Cover story: Rick Martel. **PLUS:** Von Erich, Slaughter, Muraco.

**July 1983/COLOR POSTER:** Ivan Koloff. Cover story: Tommy Rich. **PLUS:** Patera, Von Erich, Snuka, Geigel.

**August 1983/COLOR POSTER:** Larry Zbyszko. Cover story: Roddy Piper. **PLUS:** Sullivan, Zbyszko, Von Erich, Wrestling II.

**October 1983/COLOR POSTER:** Junkyard Dog. Cover story: Tommy Rich. **PLUS:** Johnson, Adonis, Rhodes, Piper.

**November 1983/COLOR POSTER:** Roddy Piper. Cover story: Harley Race. **PLUS:** Santana, Mascaras, Ellering, Valiant, Race.

**December 1983/COLOR POSTER:** Wahoo McDaniel. Cover story: Dusty Rhodes. **PLUS:** Hayes, Steamboat, Hansen, DiBiase.

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**February 1984/COLOR POSTER:** Jim Garvin & Sunshine. Cover story: Greg Valentine. **PLUS:** Super Destroyer, Race, Sawyer, Abdullah.

**April 1984/COLOR POSTER:** Rocky Johnson. Cover story: Ric Flair. **PLUS:** Hogan, Andre, Rich, Bundy.

**May 1984/COLOR POSTER:** Hacksaw Butch Reed. Cover story: Hulk Hogan. **PLUS:** Road Warriors, Fabulous Ones, Flair, Rotundo.

**June 1984/COLOR POSTER:** Dick Slater. Cover story: Ted DiBiase. **PLUS:** Wrestling II, Magnum T.A., Patera, One Man Gang, Hogan.

**July 1984/COLOR POSTER:** Paul Ellering. Cover story: Jimmy Valiant. **PLUS:** JYD, Fabulous Ones, Gagne, Windham.

**August 1984/COLOR POSTER:** Stan Hansen. Cover story: Jerry Lawler. **PLUS:** Sullivan, Slaughter, Blackwell & Patera, Flair.

**September 1984/COLOR POSTER:** Hulk Hogan. Cover story: The Road Warriors. **SPECIAL FIFTH ANNIVERSARY ISSUE—A Look Back At Wrestling In The PWI Years.**

**October 1984/COLOR POSTER:** Billy Jack. Cover story: Kerry Von Erich. **PLUS:** Martel, Blanchard, Fabulous Blonds, Armstrong.

**November 1984/COLOR POSTER:** Rick Martel. Cover story: Sgt. Slaughter. **PLUS:** Von Erich, Road Warriors, Windham, Rotundo.

**December 1984/COLOR POSTER:** Kerry Von Erich. Cover story: Barry Windham. **PLUS:** Rich, Martel, McDaniel, WWF-NWA TV war.



**MAY 1985**

**January 1985/COLOR POSTER:** Tito Santana. Cover story: Road Warriors. **PLUS:** Billy Jack, Hayes, 1984 fan ballot.

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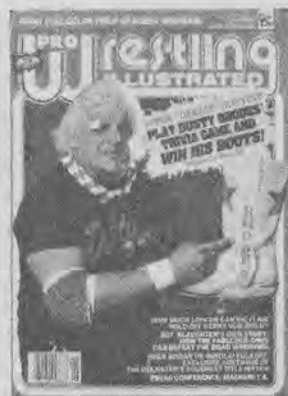
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**April 1985/COLOR POSTER:** Ronnie Garvin. Cover story: Jimmy Snuka. **PLUS:** Warriors, Gordy, Flair, Rhodes.

**May 1985/COLOR POSTER:** Road Warriors. **SPECIAL TAG TEAM ISSUE!** Cover story: Fabulous Ones & Rock 'n' Roll Express. **PLUS:** Windham & Rotundo, Von Erich & Billy Haynes, PWI Rates Top 15 teams.

**June 1985/COLOR POSTER:** Barry Windham. Cover story: Dusty Rhodes. **PLUS:** Slaughter, Hogan, Von Erich, Magnum T.A.

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## WHAT'S HAPPENING

(Continued from page 8)

tion? "For a minute I actually thought Garvin had some real class. I beat him fair and square and he made no beef about it. Now he shows what a wimp he really is by claiming I won using a loaded elbowpad. I didn't use a loaded elbowpad in that match, but if he wants to feel what a real loaded elbow feels like, I'll be glad to oblige!"

A bidding war has erupted between WWF managers **Jimmy Hart**, **Bobby Heenan** and **Fred Blassie**. They are all scrambling to obtain the contract of "Macho Man" **Randy Savage**. "I'm honored," Savage says. "All these great men want to guide my career? Well, I'll be holding out for the best deal and the biggest money." Hart, however, may have the inside track as he once managed Savage in the Mid-Southern area. As of press time, sources close to Hart say that a deal between the two is near to being closed ... **Uncle Elmer**, the uncle

of **Hillbilly Jim**, is in the WWF to help Jim gain revenge against **Bru-tus Beefcake** and his manager **Johnny Valiant**, the men who injured Jim. The Hillbilly is still sidelined with a leg injury.

**Billy Jack Haynes** and **Scott McGhee** have become a steady tag team in Florida and are looking to capture the U.S. tag team championship, currently held by "Ravishing" **Rick Rude** and **Jesse Barr** ... "Cowboy" **Bill Watts**, who recently made a pair of very successful comebacks in Louisiana and Texas, is now on the roster for a series of special appearances in the World Championship area. "It's great to be back in the ring again," the Mid-South president says. "True, I'm still involved in the business end of Mid-South Wrestling, but there are a lot of guys out there like **Kamala**, **Skandor Akbar**, and **Ole Anderson** who you just can't fight with a pen, paper, and a group of wrestling commissioners."

"Wild" **Bill Irwin** is still favoring his left leg following his "biker battle" against Florida champion **Hector Guerrero**. What is a biker battle? It's a match that permits each man to bring any piece of biker equipment into the ring with him. Irwin brandished a chain, but Guerrero, who opted to come into the ring empty-handed, emerged victorious. After the match, however, Hector grabbed a chair and repeatedly smashed Irwin's left leg.

**Sgt. Slaughter** is the new Americas champion. Slaughter pinned **Larry Zbyszko** on June 21 in Chicago to win the coveted belt. The end came when Slaughter dropped Larry backward with a combination chinlock and tripout and then he hooked Larry's legs and pinned him. "America can be proud of this belt now!" Slaughter said at a postmatch press conference. "Let me warn all wrestlers,



Several WWF managers are vying for the opportunity to manage the muscular Randy Savage.





Sgt. Slaughter has dedicated his newly won Americas title to the fans who have shown him such unyielding support.

foreign or American, that I will defend the honor of the Americas for the people."

**Buddy Rogers** was a recent guest commentator on *Pro Wrestling U.S.A.* Because of the recent comebacks of **Bruno Sammartino**, **Verne Gagne**, and **Bill Watts**, we wondered if Rogers' taste for ring action might be returning. "Well, Billy, I don't think that thirst for action that you talk about ever left me. Sure, I wonder how I'd do against Rick Martel or Ric Flair or even Bruno again. Maybe if the right deal came along, I might step into the ring once more, just maybe. You know, Billy, you should never say never!"

Rogers has been rumored to be a possible manager for **The Tonga Kid**. The former NWA and WWF champion does not rule out the possibility. "As you know, I made **Superfly Snuka** a success. I'm discussing the possibility of managing Tonga in the near future, but we have to iron out a few details first."

And that's what's happening. See you at the matches! ☐

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## CORRESPONDENTS REPORTS

(Continued from page 10)



Jimmy Valiant, continuing his war against Paul Jones' stable, took on Konga the Barbarian in a lights-out cage match.

Valiant continued the assault with elbowsmashes and savage kicks to Konga's throat. The Barbarian tried to climb out of the cage, but Valiant pulled him back in for more punishment.

From outside of the cage, Konga's manager, Paul Jones, tripped Valiant up with his cane and created an opening for his man. The Barbarian threw Valiant into the cage and kicked him into a daze. He got Valiant into a bearhug, which the Boogie Woogie man just barely managed to escape. Jones once again attempted to trip up Valiant, but he tripped Konga instead.

Valiant placed the sleeperhold on Konga and weakened him enough to run out of the cage for the victory. After the match, The Barbarian and Jones beat Valiant relentlessly and he had to be rescued by Sam Houston and Pat Tanaka, who finally chased the two men from the ring.

In other bouts: Dusty Rhodes and Manny Fernandez defeated



Ivan and Nikita Koloff by disqualification ... Superstar Graham defeated Sam Houston ... Arn Anderson defeated Stony Burke ... Dennis Brown and Pat Tanaka wrestled to a draw.

**Bloomington, MN (Correspondent—Wade Keller):** In what has to be labeled as one of the hottest feuds in wrestling today, Paul Orndorff met his former friend Cowboy Bob Orton at the Met Center. Orton came to the ring first and the boos cascaded throughout the arena. Orndorff came to the ring and the small crowd of 5,000 people sounded as loud as 40,000 in Texas Stadium.

Both men attacked each other and Orton hopped from the ring. He came back in and was bitten by Orndorff. Enraged by the sight of his own blood, Orton attacked Orndorff and set him up for his superplex, but he took too long and Orndorff recovered and socked Orton in the head.

Orton left the ring again only this time he was met by Hulk Hogan, who had taken a station at ringside. Hogan started battering Orton, and as a result Orndorff was disqualified for outside interference.

In other bouts: Hulk Hogan defeated Magnificent Muraco by disqualification ... Tito Santana defeated Greg Valentine by disqualification ... Jim Neidhardt and Brett Hart defeated Salvatore Bellomo and George Wells ... Ken Patera beat Swede Hanson ... The Spoiler defeated Tony Garea ... S.D. Jones and Steve Lombardi wrestled to a draw.

**Tulsa, OK (Correspondent—Kevin Beck):** The main event, a 20-man battle royal, saw Jake "The Snake" Roberts, The Barbarian, Tom Pritchard, Len Denton, and Tony Anthony as the last five men in the ring. As Roberts worked on Pritchard, Denton and



Jake "The Snake" Roberts (above) and The Barbarian were the co-winners of a 20-man battle royal in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

Anthony double-teamed The Barbarian. Roberts DDT'd Pritchard and covered him for a pin. He then moved to attack Anthony, leaving tag team partners Roberts and The Barbarian as co-winners of the battle royal.

In other bouts: Ted DiBiase and Steve Williams defeated Jake Roberts and The Barbarian by disqualification ... Hacksaw Jim Duggan defeated Kamala by disqualification ... Cowboy Bill Watts and Pvt. Terry Daniels defeated

Tony Anthony and Len Denton ... Kevin Von Erich defeated Gino Hernandez by disqualification ... The Nightmare defeated Brad Armstrong ... The Snowman beat Pat Rose ... Dutch Mantell defeated Brickhouse Brown ... Karl Steiner defeated Wendell Colley ... Eddie Gilbert beat Edcar Thomas. ☐



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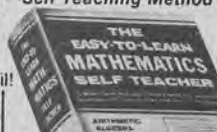
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## KILLER BROOKS

(Continued from page 32)



Brooks puts all his weight behind a forearm smash against Adidas. Men like Adidas and Scott Casey stand between Brooks and the Von Erichs.

studded wrist collars, chomping on a cigar stub, appearing to relive all the past injuries done to his person. His face becomes one of dogged certainty, as if the entire forces of the universe sit comfortably in his corner.

And if his wrestling is any indication, then the forces of the universe must be on Brooks' side. In the short time that he been in Texas, Brooks has manhandled two of the hottest stars in the World Class area. Both Brian Adidas and Scott Casey have met with what they have called the worst defeats in their careers, and, for Casey, it cost him his World Class TV title.

"Let me tell you that this Brooks guy is for real," said Casey. "He doesn't exactly follow the rules, but he's about the toughest fight I've ever had in my career. The man was brutal and relentless, like he had something to prove. I don't know what's happened to this guy, but it must have been something awful. He's mad."

Reports of Brooks' vendetta has made its way back to the Von Erich

(Continued on page 60)

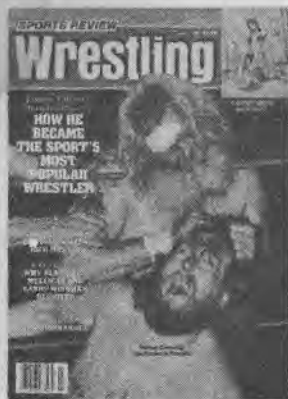


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NOVEMBER 1983

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**April 1985/Cover stories:** Von Erich-Blackwell, Billy Haynes-Jesse Barr. PLUS: Hart, Irwins, 1985 in Pictures.  
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## KILLER BROOKS

(Continued from page 58)



Bronco Lubich makes a vain attempt to pry Brooks off of Scott Casey. Killer Tim is wrestling with an intensity he has never shown before.

camp, where Kerry Von Erich tried to defuse the tense situation. "Killer Tim Brooks is just another Gary Hart creation," Kerry said. "Sure he's a tough wrestler, he's always been a tough wrestler, but this vendetta talk is just a bunch of hogwash. It's just Gary Hart trying to stir something out of nothing.

"I guess people are going to look to us to stop Killer Brooks. I'm sure either Kevin or Mike or myself will wrestle him in the near future. We'll wrestle him with the same care and caution that we wrestle everyone. But we certainly don't live in fear of the man."

There is no denying that Brooks is a more determined wrestler now than he has ever been. While some critics attribute this to a renewed spirit that has embraced the veteran brawler, Hart is insistent that revenge is the primary motivator.

"Say what you like, but this is a different Killer Brooks than the one you are used to," the manager said. "He feels wronged and violated. His targets are the Von Erichs because, as everyone in this profession is aware of, the Von Erichs control wrestling in this state. They

own the wrestling commission as surely as I own my car and my house. If, for instance, they wanted Killer Tim Brooks removed from Texas because—I'm just guessing now, mind you—say, they felt that Killer Tim Brooks might rip their collective lungs out and make a collage with them, then they might be inclined to influence him out of wrestling.

"Except that kind of tactic will not work this time. We have alerted the press to the problem. If any kind of unusual or mysterious consequences should befall Killer Tim Brooks, then the press will be on to the Von Erichs like a pack of starving wolves on to fatted calf."

Throughout his stay in Texas, Brooks hasn't said much, allowing his ferocious victories to speak for him. When Clint Eastwood drifted into town, few people took him seriously, regrettably so, as they later found out. Killer Tim Brooks appears to be on a mission that can only end with the destruction of the Von Erichs or himself. Who it will be is anyone's guess, although we can't recall Clint Eastwood ever losing a battle. □



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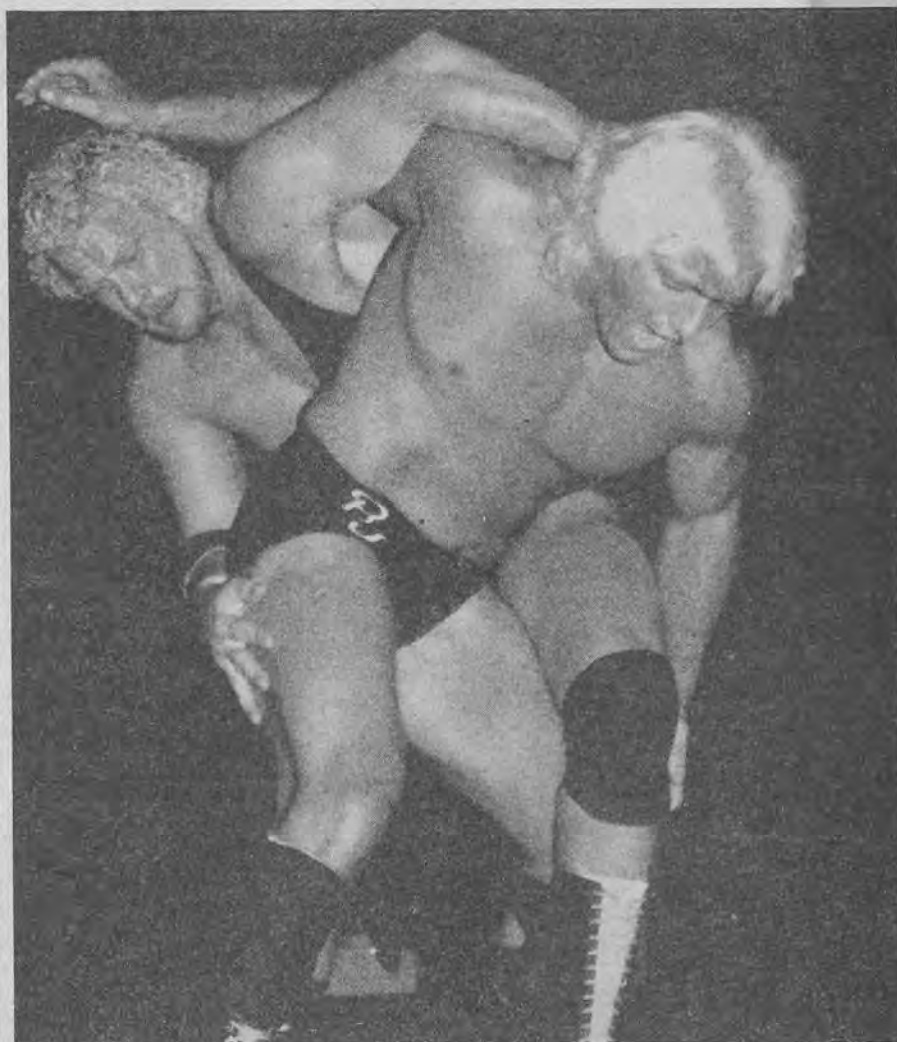
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## FLAIR/SHULTZ

(Continued from page 34)



Shultz maneuvers Flair into an abdominal stretch, which the champion would easily escape. Shultz gives Flair a lot of credit for giving him the opportunity he could not get against Hulk Hogan in the WWF.

In fairness to Hogan, Billy Haynes was not in the WWF long enough to warrant a title shot, although the chances of the promoters matching Hogan and Haynes—two confirmed fan favorites—seemed unlikely. And in the case of Kamala, rumor had it that Hogan *did* seek out the match, but was unable to come to terms with Kamala's people.

As far as Ric Flair is concerned, though, the facts speak for themselves.

"What kind of crap are Hogan's people saying now? That Haynes and Shultz and Kamala weren't around long enough? What do they want those guys to do, sit

around until they can collect a pension?

"Let me clear up some confusion. If a champion wants to wrestle somebody, he goes and tells the promoter who he wants to wrestle. Don't tell me that for over a year, Hogan couldn't squeeze David Shultz or Kamala or any scientific wrestler into his schedule. That's a lot of bull."

Schedule strength is the criteria for which teams and individuals are rated in practically every sport. The disparity between Flair's and Hogan's match records is remarkable. While Hogan wrestles essentially the same rough-and-tumble element in every match, Flair's weekly schedule might include Magnum T.A. on Monday, Nikita Koloff on Wednesday, Dusty Rhodes on



Thursday, Kerry Von Erich on Saturday, and Wahoo McDaniel on Sunday—a cross-section of several different style wrestlers.

Flair continued his tirade against Hogan. "It burns me up when people mention Hogan's name in the same breath as mine. I'm a champion, he's a muscle-beached clown. I wrestle, he fights.

"Take tonight for instance. No one wanted to touch this guy Shultz. Man, his reputation is just about as bad as anyone's. But, if I claim to be the best in my profession, then I must put up or shut up. You saw that match tonight. It was tough. It could have gone either way. But that's what separates the Ric Flairs from the



The NWA champion effortlessly snapmares his challenger to the mat. Flair will wrestle any worthy challenger, regardless of his style or reputation.

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"I'd take Shultz over Hogan anytime. That man's as tough as they come."

Someone asked Flair about AWA World champion Rick Martel.

"Hey, personally I think I could wrap Martel up into a little package and send him back to Quebec, but I respect the guy. He'll also take on anyone. He's never turned his back on a match as far as I know.

"And that's the sign of a true champion." □

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## GEORGE STEELE

(Continued from page 31)



Steele was completely out of control during his stint in the WWF in 1981. S.D. Jones could not do anything against The Animal.

paraded about the ring spastically, arms flailing and neck tilted; this Steele still considered turnbuckles a delicacy, and this Steele still felt that brutality was next to godliness. Except this Steele was different in a way that brought him closer to his lunatic brethren: This George Steele didn't talk. He made sounds for sure, growled a whole litany of incoherent babbles, and moaned like a wolf caught in a furrier's trap, but he did not speak. He could not form words.

Rather than evoking sympathy from the fans, Steele's handicap further infuriated them. Now, after dismantling an opponent, Steele would mount the ringpost, stare into the crowd, and howl. He became the primary object of hate and derision throughout the WWF.

Fans, wrestlers, and reporters took turns in guessing what had happened to Steele. The rumor getting the most play was that Steele had been commit-



ted, finally, to an asylum and had escaped. Before the rumor could be substantiated, Steele again disappeared.

When he returned to the WWF several months ago, Steele appeared to be as vicious as ever. Joining forces with the evil duo of Nikolai Volkoff and The Iron Sheik, Steele resumed his position as the most despised wrestler in the WWF. Then, in a six-man match against Barry Windham, Mike Rotundo, and Rick Steamboat, Volkoff and The Sheik inexplicably refused to take Steele's tag, leaving The Animal alone in the ring where he received the thrashing of his career.

After the match, a confused and bewildered Steele ran about the ring in an uncontrolled frenzy, his already delicate psyche now shaken completely out of control. From the dressing room, out ran his old friend and manager, Albano, who was able to calm The Animal down. As the two walked from the ring, a curious thing occurred. The fans, who have taken up Albano's change of heart with unbounded enthusiasm, rose to their feet and issued to Steele and the Captain a standing ovation.

Like a wild beast responding to Beethoven's Ninth, Steele's eyes rolled about his head and a smile creased his lips. Hearing the cheers of the fans for the first time in his career was salve to the open wound of Steele's mental illness. The response has been immediate. Since that night, as Albano reported, Steele has befriended Windham, Rotundo, and the rest of the WWF's fan favorites, and has made giant strides in regaining his speech. As many fans already know, Steele has become a spokesman for Minolta Home Office systems, appearing in a commercial with Tony Randall.

The difference has been the fans. As Albano points out, "George Steele just needed a little love and affection. He was always misunderstood, much like myself, for his entire career. In time, everyone will come to love George Steele. And after he annihilates Volkoff and The Sheik, he will win the respect of the entire wrestling world."

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Woodland Hills, CA 91367-3779

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### IMPORTANT!

Your initials must appear below to qualify for Free Sample Import. Because of high cost and limited supply, I hereby agree to limit my request to one, and one ONLY, Free Sample Import. I have not previously requested this Free sample. I am over 18 years of age.

Initial here \_\_\_\_\_



Now, Even If You Have Been Thin For Years, You Can

# GAIN <sup>UP TO</sup> 5, 10, 15 POUNDS

without dangerous drugs, without exercise,  
without unpleasant tasting medicines,  
**MEN**—an impressive manly body,  
**WOMEN**—a curvier, glamorous figure.

If you had started this amazing method just a few short weeks ago, right now you could be up to 5, 10, even 15 pounds heavier or more!

At last, no matter what you have tried, no matter what you have done, if you are a normally healthy person, you can gain up to 5, 10, 15 pounds or more safely, surely, pleasantly, and that's a guaranteed money-back fact.

Yes now, even if you have been thin for years, you can have the fuller, more attractive body you have always wanted without dangerous drugs, without heart-straining exercise, without unpleasant tasting medicines!

This exciting method is easy, pleasant, and medically sound beyond a shadow of a doubt, and your own Doctor could tell you the same thing.

## HERE'S ALL YOU DO

Before meals, or whenever you feel like it, you take delicious, chewable, nutritionally fortified GAIN tablets and that's it! No other medication to take. Nothing difficult or unpleasant to do, and without even being aware of it, a wonderfully exciting change takes place.

Those high-calorie GAIN tablets are rich in body-building materials! They not only add weight themselves, but they sharpen your appetite! You look forward to meal-times, and without even realizing it, you start to eat more and almost immediately the weight gaining process begins!

As you follow your GAIN Plan which includes nutritional high calorie menus, You add pounds and inches to your arms, legs, chest, hips, everywhere. You'll be amazed at the fantastic transformation that occurs . . . as thin, unattractive areas start to develop into new magnetic appeal. You'll be

## SKINNY MEN AND WOMEN ARE NOT ATTRACTIVE



. . . a skinny, scrawny body is no asset in social or business life. Give the GAIN Plan a chance to help build you up and put firm flesh on you.

thrilled to discover that as you gain weight you will have more pep and energy for all the wonderful things in life!

## THINK OF WHAT THIS CAN MEAN TO YOU

If you are one of those unfortunate people who can't wear all the new high style clothes you want to wear . . . if you are ashamed of the way you look in a bathing suit . . . embarrassed because your legs are too thin and spindly . . . your chest is too flat . . . your arms aren't the full, rounded limbs they were meant to be . . . If you long for a more attractive-looking body, the safe, pleasant GAIN Plan can be the answer to your prayers!

Yes, now, with the GAIN Plan to help, it's so easy, so pleasant to add pounds and inches of firm, attractive flesh . . . so full-filling to feel better, stronger, more vital and alive! But don't take our word for it. Prove it to yourself at our risk!

If you sincerely want to gain weight, and to look better and feel better as a result,

## HERE IS OUR OFFER . . .

We honestly believe the GAIN Plan to be the finest and most effective product of its type sold anywhere in the world today, and to prove our confidence, we are backing that statement up with this honest, straightforward offer . . .

Try the fabulous new GAIN Plan in your

## GAIN IS SAFE

GAIN is not a dangerous drug, medicine or a fishy-tasting oil. It is made of safe, pure ingredients, contains nothing which could possibly harm you, and may even be taken with complete safety by children.

## MONEY-BACK GUARANTEE

Send for the GAIN Plan today. Try it for 7 days entirely at our risk. If, at the end of 7 days, you haven't started to gain pounds and inches and to look better and to feel better . . . If you aren't convinced the GAIN Plan is a safe, pleasant, way to gain weight, don't keep it! Return the empty bottle and get your money back immediately, no questions asked!

## VITAL NOTE

A current issue of a famous medical journal reports on a recent government controlled study. This study, conducted over a 24 year period on 5,000 underweight and overweight men and women, proves that being underweight is as injurious to health and longevity as being overweight.

own home at our risk. Subject it to any test you like. Weigh yourself before you start. Weigh yourself later. If you haven't started to see substantial weight gain within 7 days, and if you don't feel better and look better as a result, or, if you are not completely satisfied for any reason, PAY NOTHING! It's just as simple as that.

If you are in doubt . . . even if you think nothing can possibly help you, for the sake of your appearance, and your happiness, at least try it! If the GAIN Plan works the way we know it will, you'll agree it is worth the few dollars it cost.

On the other hand, if it doesn't work the way you expected, it costs you nothing, and at least you have had the satisfaction of trying it at our expense.

What could be fairer than that? The next move is up to you. Once and for all, determine to do something about your underweight! We know you'll be happy you did.

## MAIL NO-RISK COUPON TODAY

GAIN PRODUCTS, Dept. G8

535 Fifth Ave., New York, NY 10017

Please send my package of GAIN Plan immediately with the understanding that if I am not satisfied, I may have my money back, no questions asked.

- ☐ One GAIN PLAN for \$9.98
- ☐ SAVE \$2.00! Order 2 for \$17.96
- ☐ SAVE \$5.00! Order 3 for \$25.00

Enclosed is \$

☐ cash, ☐ check or ☐ money order

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